SUNDAY
January 19, 2025

BENGALURU
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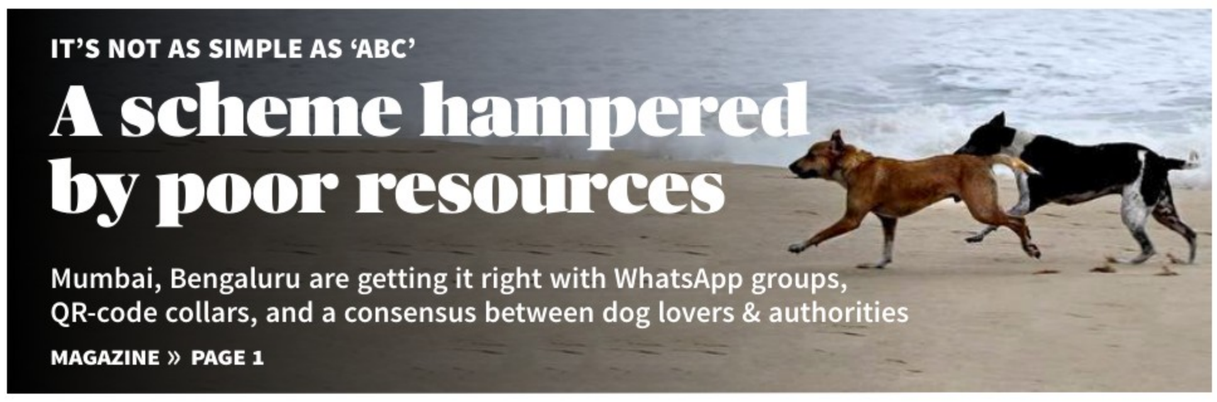

IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS 'ABC'

A scheme hampered by poor resources

Mumbai, Bengaluru are getting it right with WhatsApp groups, QR-code collars, and a consensus between dog lovers & authorities

MAGAZINE » PAGE 1

A confluence of faith and culture

PROFILES » PAGE 14

Can Bhopal waste be safely disposed of?

FAQ » PAGE 13

Bumrah, Shami in for Champions Trophy

SPORTS » PAGE 19

Lit for Life begins with an ode to books and reading

Zubeda Hamid
CHENNAI

Books and reading can change your life, said Abraham Verghese, eminent physician and author, most recently, of *The Covenant of Water*. Dr. Verghese delivered the inaugural address at the 13th edition of The Hindu Lit for Life, in Chennai, on Saturday.

After a nod to his connection with Chennai – he studied at the Madras Medical College – Dr. Verghese said that if you think about it, while human beings have been around for perhaps a million-plus years, the first recorded writing script, the Sumerian script on Cuneiform tablets from Mesopotamia was from around 5,000 years ago - similar writing forms took place in the Indus Valley and China. So, he said, writing has only been with us for about 5,000 years, and printing, in the form of books began only in the 1400s. "So this a very, very recent endeavour so to speak, and yet it's a wonderful, magical endeavour," he said.

When we read, Dr. Verghese said, the retina takes in the image, the brain recognises and processes it, and makes a sort of mental movie for the reader. He added, jokingly, that he told his medical students that if they were not in the habit of picking up a novel to read, they would suffer 'brain atrophy'. Quoting Franz Kafka, who said a book "must be the axe for the frozen sea within us," he said, he was thinking of all the young people at the festival, who were perhaps, about to discover the one book that would steer their life in a slightly different way.

"There are no writers without readers," he reminded the audience.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 9

Abraham Verghese, author; Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson, The Hindu Group; L.V. Navaneeth, CEO, The Hindu Group; and Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu*, at the inaugural event. R. RAGU

The Hindu launches *Surf & Dive* at lit fest

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Shashi Tharoor, MP and writer, launched *The Hindu*'s latest product, *Surf & Dive*, a print offering that gives readers in-depth coverage across a range of issues.

The idea was that in a world abuzz with digital distractions, there is a growing hunger for thoughtful analysis and trusted perspectives. So this product presents meticulously curated long-form reads that offer clarity, context and a 360-degree perspective.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 16

Israel-Gaza ceasefire to begin today, officials say

Associated Press
CAIRO

The ceasefire between Hamas and Israel will go into effect on Sunday at 8.30 a.m. local time, mediator Qatar announced on Saturday, as families of hostages held in Gaza braced for news of loved ones, Palestinians prepared to receive freed detainees and humanitarian groups rushed to set up a surge of aid.

No immediate response
But Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu later warned that a ceasefire would not go forward unless Israel received the names of hostages to be released, as had been agreed. His statement came almost three hours after Israel had expected to receive the names, which Hamas was to give to Qatar. There was no immediate response from Hamas or Qatar.

Overnight approval
The overnight approval of the ceasefire deal by Israel's Cabinet, in a rare meeting during the Jewish Sabbath, set off a flurry of activity and a fresh wave of emotions as relatives wondered whether hostages would be returned alive or dead.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 9

R.G. Kar rape: ex-police volunteer found guilty

Sentencing to take place tomorrow; accused Sanjay Roy was convicted based on 11 pieces of evidence produced by the CBI; court has lived up to the faith placed in it, say victim's parents

Shiv Sahay Singh
Moyurie Som
Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

A Kolkata court on Saturday found former civic police volunteer Sanjay Roy guilty of the rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at the State-run R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital.

Judge Anirban Das of the Additional District and Sessions Court, Sealdah, pronounced the verdict in the presence of the accused. The parents of the victim were also present. The term of the sentence would be pronounced on Monday.

The court said it found the accused guilty on the basis of evidence put forward by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the crime carried the highest punishment of a death sentence and the lowest of life imprisonment.

The judge said the accused is being held guilty under Sections 64 (rape), 66 (causing death), and 103 (1) (murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Reading out the verdict, the judge had mentioned that Roy had entered the hospital on August 9, sexually assaulted the victim and smothered her to death.

The victim's body was recovered from a seminar room in the hospital on August 9. While Roy was arrested by the Kolkata Police, the CBI took over the case and filed a chargesheet against him on October 7. The chargesheet listed 11 pieces of evidence confirming his role in the crime, including CCTV footage that showed him entering and exiting the scene.

Roy pleaded innocence when the verdict was read out in the court. "I did not do this, sir. The ones who have done this, why are they not being held," he asked the court. The judge said Roy would get a chance to speak on Monday, before the sentencing.

The parents of the deceased doctor broke down after the verdict was pronounced. "You have lived up to the faith we had placed in you," the victim's father told the judge. The parents had initially accused the police of trying to hush up the crime.

MIXED RESPONSE » PAGE 9

Keeping peace: Police personnel keep guard outside the Sealdah court where the judgment was being delivered on Saturday. PTI

NEARBY

Poor supply of Nandini batter leaves many sore

BENGALURU
When the Karnataka Milk Federation launched whey protein-enriched idli and dosa batters under its Nandini brand, many were eager to try it out. But with the supply currently not matching the demand, many are disappointed. » Page 4

CLASSIFIEDS » PAGES 2 & 6
MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

Polls for State BJP chief post will be held soon: Chouhan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the factional war in the State unit of the BJP showing no signs of abating, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday said the election to the State BJP president's post would be held soon.

Mr. Chouhan, who is also the BJP's internal election in charge for Karnataka, said that the process to elect the new president had started. Interestingly, State BJP presidents have so far been chosen unopposed. Mr. Chauhan's announcement comes a day after Mr. Vijayendra expressed confidence of continuing in the post and the party returning to power in the State with a majority. He had also held talks with Union Home Minister Amit Shah a few days ago.

The State BJP's image appears to be dented heavily as leaders associated with the groups led by Vijayapura MLA Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal and Mr. Vijayendra have been washing dirty linen in public. Factions have weakened the saffron party's campaign against alleged corruption charges, including the MUDA scam; however, there are also leaders who aren't siding with any faction. Factionalism in the BP reportedly played a role in the defeat of the party's candidates in the byelections to three Assembly constituencies in the State held in November, 2024.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2
WAR OF WORDS CONTINUES: » PAGE 7

High Court directs CAG to audit construction workers' welfare fund

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that the amount from the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare (KBOCWW) Fund is being used for non-welfare-related activities, besides being used for administrative purposes in excess of the permissible limit, the High Court of Karnataka has directed the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) to audit the fund and submit a report to the court within three months.

Court quashes 2023 notification reducing assistance to the children of registered construction workers pursuing UG and PG courses

Also, the court quashed the State government's October 13, 2023, notification, which reduced the financial assistance to the children of registered construction workers pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate courses to ₹10,000 per year from the earlier ₹30,000 to 35,000 per year.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while allowing a petition filed by Amrutha M., an MBA student, and Ankitha H., a student of the LLB course. They are the daughters of two registered construction workers, Manjegowda and Harish K., respectively.

The petitioners had complained about non-disbursement and reduction of educational assistance stating that it impacted their studies. They also questioned the legality of the reduction of educational assistance when the KBOCWW Fund collected around ₹6,700 crore in the form of KBOCWW Cess, which was deposited in various banks and earned interest.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

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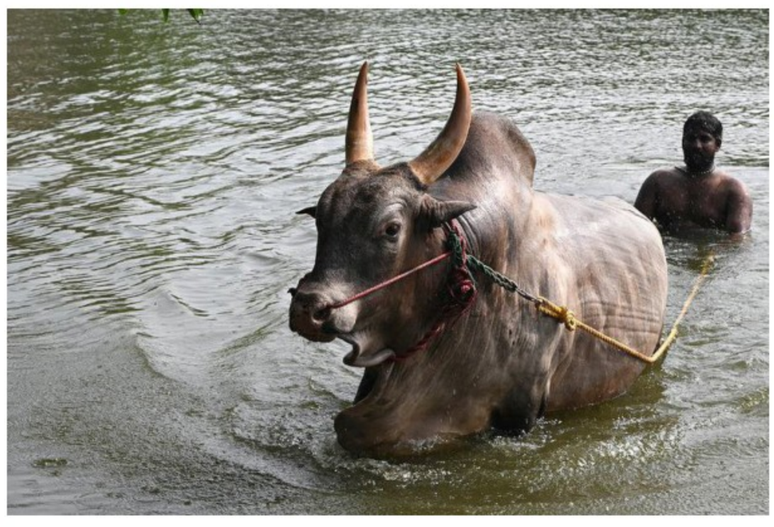


Getting ready: Bulls receive special care as the jallikattu event approaches. This includes baths twice a week and swimming sessions to build muscle. G. MOORTHY

Fury in motion: A bull leaps from the *vaadivasal* (entry point) at the jallikattu at Alanganallur in Madurai on January 16. R. ASHOK

Taming the beast: A young man tackles a bull at Thachankurichi in Pudukkottai, where the first jallikattu of the year in Tamil Nadu was held on January 4. M. MOORTHY

Battle begins: A bull tamer tries to overpower the animal at the jallikattu event held at Palamedu in Madurai on January 15. G. MOORTHY

The bull and the brave

Jallikattu attracts thousands of spectators during the Pongal festival each year; despite its cultural significance, the event has faced controversy due to safety concerns

The Tamil festival of Pongal is celebrated with great enthusiasm in districts such as Madurai, notably hosting the ancient sport of jallikattu.

The traditional bull-taming event, believed to date back to the Sangam period, attracts thousands of spectators from around the world each year. Avaniapuram, Palamedu, and Alanganallur are some of the places famed for the event.

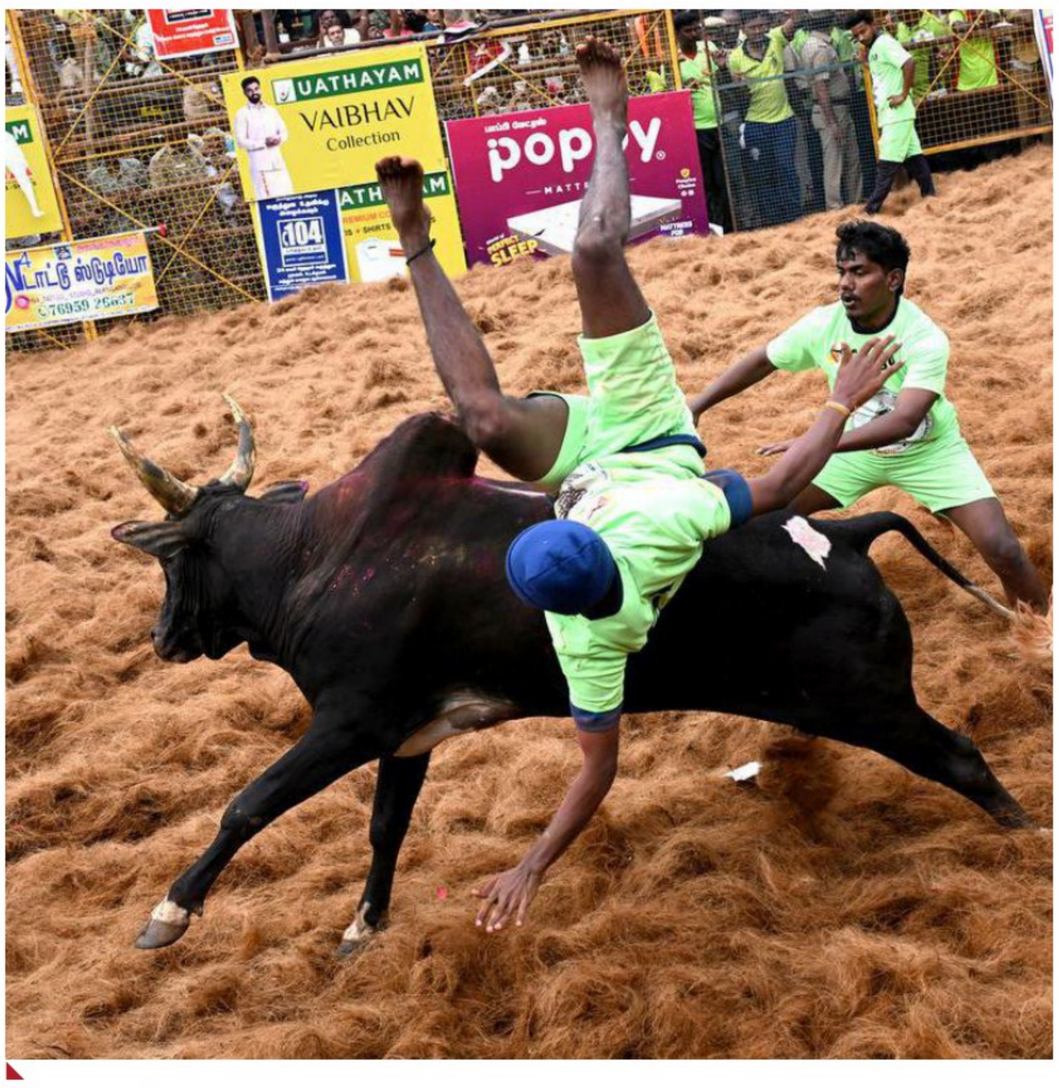
From men waiting in long queues to release their bulls into the arena, to bull-tamers preparing to jump in, photographers with sharp eyes waiting to capture the right moment, and cheering spectators watching from terraces, parapets, and galleries, jallikattu undoubtedly is a vibrant celebration.

The event is promoted as a tourist attraction by the State government and it holds appeal as a symbol of Tamil culture. Tourists from the U.S., the U.K., Australia, France, Belgium, Austria, Brazil, and other countries registered and witnessed this year's event with much joy and enthusiasm.

Traditionally a male-dominated sport, jallikattu has seen increased participation from women and transgender persons in recent years. Each year, alongside men who wait for their turn to untie their bulls in the field, hundreds of women, and transgender persons too train and wait for their turn to tackle their bulls. Many women and a few transgender people who participated in this year's jallikattu events were seen celebrating their victory by kissing or embracing the bulls.

Once looked upon as an event to test the prowess of the young men in the region, jallikattu soon evolved into a competitive sport with high stakes, and, more recently, controversy. Despite its cultural significance, jallikattu has faced criticism due to safety concerns. The event has been associated with numerous injuries and fatalities among both participants and spectators over the years. Animal activists have also alleged that the sport involves cruelty to the bulls.

As the echoes of celebration and spirit settle for now, it is time to consider ways to preserve this tradition with more safety for participants and welfare measures for the animals.



Intense moments: A participant is thrown over during jallikattu at Palamedu in Madurai on January 15. G. MOORTHY

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Techie held for poisoning female friend

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The HAL police on Saturday arrested a 54-year-old software engineer for allegedly poisoning his 45-year-old female friend to death to make it look like suicide.

The police, growing suspicious of the woman's death, checked the call record details before arresting Imdad Basha. He was charged with murder and remanded in judicial custody.

According to the police, the victim, Uzma Khan, was found dead at Basha's apartment on January 1. Basha was also found half conscious in the same apartment. The police opened an unnatural death report under suspicious death.

"A resident of the same apartment complex had called the police helpline after hearing loud noises from Basha's apartment. When we reached the apartment, both Basha and Uzma were found lying on the floor. Basha had claimed that they both decided to end their lives and consumed poison. However, Uzma's brother found something amiss and ran a few checks to ascertain Basha's role in his sister's death," said the police.

Uzma's brother found that on the night of December 31, Basha sent his sister a picture of food he cooked. He suspected that Basha invited Uzma to his home on the occasion of New Year and fed her the food laced with poison.

Based on this suspicion, Uzma's brother filed a complaint claiming that Basha killed his sister. The police eventually arrested him and sent him to judicial custody.

HC enhances compensation for parents of accident victim

They and BMTC questioned an order of the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, which directed the latter to pay ₹15.07 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has enhanced from ₹15.07 lakh to ₹35.53 lakh the compensation to be paid to the parents of a 20-year-old engineering student who died after a BMTC bus knocked her down in 2015.

A Division Bench comprising K.S. Mudagal and Justice Vijaykumar A. Patil passed the order while allowing the appeal filed by Mary Franchana and Christy Babu, parents of deceased Mary Sindhu, who was then studying in the seventh-semester BE course.

Both the parents and the BMTC had questioned the order passed by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, Bengaluru, which had directed the BMTC to pay ₹15.07 lakh as compensation while holding that the accident was caused due to negligence of the bus driver, who was charge-sheeted by the police.

While parents claimed that the compensation was on the lower side, the BMTC had claimed the compensation was high as the rider of the scooter, on which the girl was riding pillion, too was responsible for the accident. Sindhu's classmate, who was riding the scooter, had survived the accident.

Academic excellence

However, the court, considering Sindhu's academic excellence, said the parents are entitled to higher compensation.

It pointed out that Sindhu would have earned a notional income of at least ₹22,000 per month after completing her BE course, as against the notional income of ₹12,000 assessed by the tribunal. The court calculated the compensation for loss of dependency as ₹33.26 lakh while applying ₹22,000 as notional income to the multiplier method of computing the compensation amount as against ₹12.96 lakh calculated by the tribunal.

The court directed the BMTC to pay the parents a total compensation of ₹35.53 lakh, with 6% interest from the date of the petition, which was filed in 2017, until the compensation is realised.

From Page One

'Polls for State BJP chief post will be held soon'

MP for Shivamogga B.Y. Raghavendra with Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Bengaluru on Saturday.

With complaints of both the factions reaching the party high command, Mr. Chouhan said the election process would commence soon for the post of State president.

"We hold booth-level leaders' elections as well. Sometimes the people are elected unanimously," Mr. Chouhan said.

To douse differences

Sources in the BJP said the Union Minister's remark on holding elections to the post of State president was largely aimed at dousing the differences and arriving at some sort of mutual understanding among leaders in the party.

Mr. Vijayendra, who is former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa's son and Shikaripur MLA, has just completed one year in office.

A section of former MLAs, former MPs and leaders, including Mr. Yatnal and Gokak MLA, Ramesh Jarkiholi, have been opposing Mr. Vijayendra and his style of functioning.

Two factions have started separate protests against the alleged encroachment of lands of farmers by the wakf board in the last few months, bringing the differences out in the open.

Many leaders of the faction, led by Mr. Yatnal, have not joined the protests undertaken by Mr. Vijayendra in the past few months.

Interestingly, this comes at a time when a section of leaders in the ruling Congress too have been challenging the continuation of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar as KPCC chief.

Urban mobility expert bats for passing of Active Mobility Bill

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Participants in a panel discussion have said if the Active Mobility Bill becomes law, all urban local bodies will be obliged to provide infrastructure to cyclists and pedestrians. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Active Mobility Bill holds promise to ensure safety for cyclists among other things and needs to be passed in the Legislative Assembly, said Satya Arikutharam, an urban mobility expert.

Participating in a panel discussion on "Are Our Roads Only For Motor Vehicles? How Do We Change This?" here on Saturday, he said, "This bill was conceived three years ago by getting inspired by what is happening in the world in sustainable mobility. Singapore and Berlin have their own specific active mobility bills. These countries foresaw that sustainable mobility will be the key, cycles will become a lifestyle element and made sure infrastructure enabled people to switch to this. The Government of Karnataka prepared a draft and put it out for public consultation and got more than 600 responses from the public. The bill then was sent to the government for legislation and the Karnataka govt is sitting on it."

"We always hear about road widening, but never hear about footpaths coming up. This bill will be practical if this becomes a law as all urban local bodies in Karnataka will be obligated to provide infrastructure to cyclists and pedestrians. We are trying to get more action on this and hoping in this upcoming Budget session, this bill will see light. If this bill gets implemented, Karnataka will become the Netherlands of Asia," he added.

The discussion was part of Pedaluru, a cycling event, which also saw "The Altmo Challenge," a 90-day corporate cycling initiative organised by the Council for Active Mobility (CFAM) to promote cycling as an active means of mobility.

The event celebrated cycling as a mode of transportation, recreation, and climate action, while also promoting road safety and sustainable urban living.

The event saw 154 cyclists, including corporate participants, who took part in a 4.5 km group ride, starting from the Institute of Agricultural Technologists, Queens Road.

Journalist gets death threat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 37-year-old journalist has filed a complaint with the Sanjay Nagar police after allegedly getting death threats from drug peddlers.

Based on the complaint, the Sanjay Nagar police have registered a case against the accused.

The complainant, Hussain Owaisi recently published a news article about a group of people allegedly under the influence of narcotics misbehaving in a public place.

CET-2025 syllabus published on KEA site

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After the controversy over students being asked out of syllabus questions last year, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) on Saturday published on its official website the syllabus for the Common Entrance Test (CET-2025), which is the gateway for entrance to various professional courses, including engineering.

The syllabus for Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology of the first and second-year Pre-University (PU) courses has been uploaded on the website.

"Candidates are advised to prepare for the exam based on this syllabus. The syllabus has been designed based on the NCERT curriculum and the textbooks prescribed by the Department of School Education (Pre-University). Subject experts from PU colleges have also reviewed it," said H. Prasanna, Executive Director of KEA.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, JAN. 19		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:14
RISE	22:50	SET 10:25
MONDAY, JAN. 20		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:15
RISE	23:35	SET 10:59
TUESDAY, JAN. 21		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:16
RISE	00:00	SET 11:34

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	20
Mysuru	28	16
Bengaluru	26	17

Bengaluru Today
27°C Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be cool. Mostly dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
24°C Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that **Mrs.Sukanta Gupta,** being the absolute owner of **Property bearing No.3,** Bengali Library Road, Karanpur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
affirms that the **Original Sale Deed dated 06.11.1978,** executed by **Mr.Rana Banarjee,** son of Mr.P.K. Banerjee in favour of Ms.Arati Sen, daughter of Mr.Bijay Ratan Sen Gupta, registered as Document No.9375/1978-79, Jild No.1522 at pages 237-250, before the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand has been lost/ misplaced and has not been mortgaged/ pledged as collateral security and is not in a position to trace the said original document. Mrs.Sukanta Gupta had also lodged a Complaint on 16.01.2025, bearing E-Lost Report No.1432310/2025, before the Bangalore City Police about the aforesaid loss. Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid document may return the same to us or anyone having any sort of claim over the said Property may lodge their objections in writing within **30 days** from this day to the undersigned.

K.V. Narendra & Associates
Advocates
No. 557, 2nd Floor, 9th 'A' Main,
Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038
Call: 9591067392.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Trivandrum (Works Branch)
E-Tender Notice No.V/W/TVC/1/2025 Dated 16-01-2025

Divisional Railway Manager/Works Branch/Trivandrum Division, Trivandrum-14 for and on behalf of the President of India invites ONLINE tenders for the following works as per tender notice and Complete details are given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sl. No.	Description	Approx. value (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD in (Rs.)	Period of Completion
1	KCVL - Capacity augmentation of Military siding for full length Goods unloading line (RO-RO).	84.32	168700	TWELVE
2	Cutting of trees in SSE/P.way/Varkala and Trivandrum sections and cleaning of side drains in Varkala P.way.	25.22	50400	TWELVE
3	TVC Sub division: Construction of boundary wall to prevent trespassing.	249.01	274500	TWELVE
4	TVC Division Proposed strengthening of Public FOBS. Bridge No.798, 1298, 180A in TCR subdivision and bridge No.2270 A in Quilon yard.	140.99	220500	NINE
5	Trichur Sub Division - Essential repairs to Foot Over Bridges.	161.36	230700	TWELVE
6	TVC Division Proposed Replacement of existing steel girders with PSC slab for Br. No. 128 Up (1x 12.20m) in ERS-KTYM-KYL-section.	68.58	137200	TEN
7	TVC-Maintenance, repair/replacement in respect of Plumbing works in SSE/W/TVC section for a period of two years.	25.65	51300	TWENTY FOUR
8	ADEN/QLN Sub Division Providing boundary pillars using class II PSC sleepers and Renewal of kilometer posts.	153.93	227000	TWELVE
9	ADEN/ERS- Sub-Division:-Provision of Divyangjan facilities at Stations.	407.64	353800	TWELVE

Tender Closing date and time: Sl No: 1 to 9: 07-2-2025 at 11.00 hrs

Note: It is the responsibility of the tenderer to check any Corrigendum issued for any correction or modifications uploaded subsequently in website; the same shall be taken into account while submitting.

Divisional Railway Manager/Works/Trivandrum-14

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- Orthopaedics
- Paediatrics
- ENT
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- Dermatology and Venerology
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- Anaesthesiology
- Radio diagnosis

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- Urologist
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- Medical Gastroenterologist

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REQUIRED EXPORT Documentation Manager for an EOU at Bangalore. kandoi@indiagranite.com

कार्यालय, जिला परिषद्, कोडरमा

अतिअल्पकालीन ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या – 08/2024–25
(Second Call)

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024–25 में पंचायती राज विभाग द्वारा जिला परिषद कोडरमा अंतर्गत विभिन्न भवनों, परिसम्पत्तियों का निर्माण, मरम्मति एवं नवीनीकरण मद से स्वीकृती प्रदत्त क्रमांक 01 में वर्णित कार्य हेतु ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। विवरणी निम्नवत् है:–

क्र0 स0	प्रखण्ड का नाम	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
01	कोडरमा	Construction of Market Complex in Jhumri Tilaiya under Koderma Zila Parishad	34267611.00	686000.00	10000.00	15 माह

1. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :– **20.01.2025**
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय :– **21.01.2025 से 27.01.2025, अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक।**
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– **28.01.2025 पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे।**
4. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:– **जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद कोडरमा।**
5. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0 **9934546408** एवं ई–मेल ddczpkoderma@gmail.com
6. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
7. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बन्द कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही संबंधित निविदादाता/ संवेदक की होगी।

निविदा की शर्ते कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर या www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

PR 344588 Panchayati Raj(24-25)#D

जिला अभियंता,
जिला परिषद्, कोडरमा

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **07.02.2025 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.208603043.73/-** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. M/S Gokul Dairy Rep by its Partner's** located at Sy No -240, No 157, NH -48 B M Road, Gottigere, Kunigal, Tumkur Dist.Karnataka - 572130. **2. Rep by its Partner Sri. K N Krishna Murthy** S/o K R Narayanappa , no 176, Sri Krishna, 5th Main, A Sector, Yelahanka New Town, Yelehanka, Bangalore-560064. **3. Sri. K N Ranganath** S/o Sri. K.R. Narayanappa, No 565, Maddur Road, Kunigal, Tumkur Dist, Karnataka 572130. **4. Sri K R Gayathri** W/o Sri K N Krishna Murthy, No 176, Sri Krishna, 5th main, A Sector, Yelahanka New Town, Yelahanka, Bangalore 560064. **5. K Supriya** D/o K N Krishna Murthy, No.176, Sri Krishna, 5th Main, A Sector, Yelahanka new Town, Yelahanka, Bangalore 560064.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **06.02.2025 5.00 PM.**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1	Residential Vacant Site Khatha No 2091/2570(Old no-2570/5079),2092/2571(Old no2571/5080),2094/2578 (Old No -2578/5087), 2096/2579 (Old No-2579/5088) situated at Kunigal town near Housing board colony and property is in the name of K N Krishna Murthy S/o K R Narayanappa.Total extent of 4 site is 5220 Sq ft. Boundaries: East: property be to Sarawathi bai, West: property belong to K N Ranganath, North: property belong to K R Gayathri, South: Road. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 130157.4N, Longitude- 7703569E.**	₹.234.90	₹.23.49	₹.1.00
2	Residential vacant site Situated at Khata no 2142/2580 (Old no 2580/5089) Kunigal Town, Municipal council, near KHB colony and property in the name of partner K R Gayathri W/o K N Krishna Murthy. Total extent of land is 6120 Sq ft. Boundaries: East: property belong to Sarawathi bai, West: property belong to K N Balaji Rao, North: Lake Yard, South: Road and property belong to K N Krishnamurthy. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 130133.3N, Longitude- 770206.4E.**	₹.203.79	₹.20.37	₹.1.00
3	Residential vacant site Khatha No 797/738 (Old No – 738/1368) situated at ward no -9, 3rd cross, Madduru road Kunigal town Tumkur Dist. And property is in the name of partner K S Ranganath S/o K R Narayanappa. Total extent of site is 2894 Sq ft. East: Kodadarama Shetty house, West : Mukbul and Ahmed's House, North : Road, South : Road. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 130123.8N, Longitude- 770128.5E.**	₹.97.67	₹.9.76	₹.1.00
4	Converted land site Sy.No.240/2, Old 240, Khata No.184/211 Old Khata No.240/2 measuring 2 acres 7 guntas plus 7 guntas of Kharab in all measuring 2 acre and 14 guntas within the limits of Beguru Village Panchayat, Gottigere Village, Hutrigere Village, Hutridurga Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur Dt., bounded by : East: Property of Shafiullah Khan, West : Road, North: Ansarulla Khan; South: Land of Abdul Azeez and Fiaz Khan, Valuation at time of sanction ₹.691.24, **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 130157.4N, Longitude-770356.9E .**	₹.458.93	₹.45.89	₹.1.00
	Total	**₹.995.29**		

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920** during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 18.01.2025

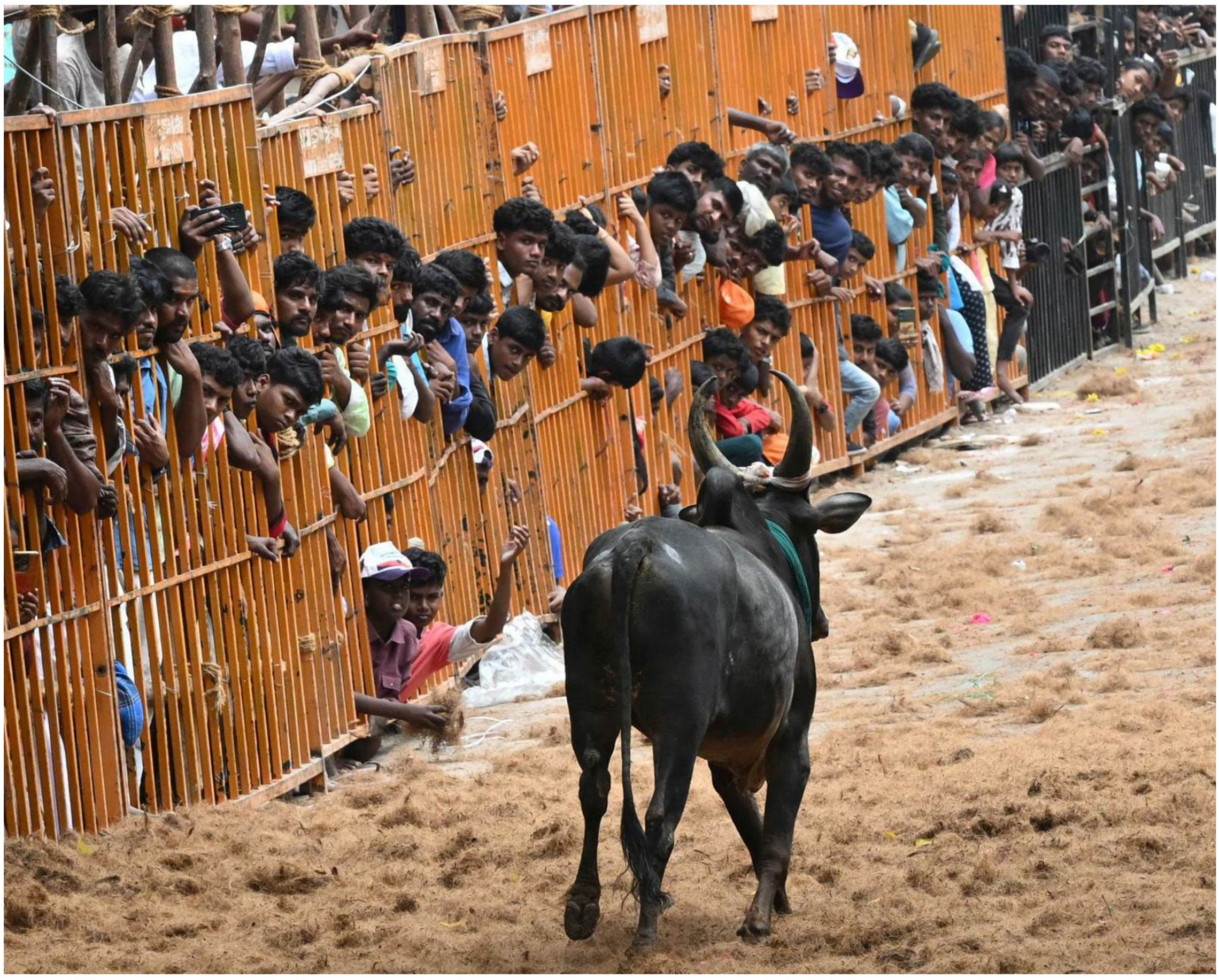
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Raging spirit: A bull tamer struggles during the Avaniapuram Jallikattu in Madurai on January 14. G. MOORTHY

Price of tradition: An injured bull is transferred into an ambulance for medical treatment during the jallikattu event held at Koolamedu on January 17. E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

On the mat: A young man trying to tame a bull during the event held at Koolamedu in Salem district in Tamil Nadu on January 17. E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

Festive roar: A bull enters the arena during the jallikattu event held at Palamedu in Madurai on January 15. G. MOORTHY



Next time, then: Audience peering through barricades, eager to catch a glimpse of the bull before its exit from the Avaniapuram Jallikattu arena in Madurai. G. MOORTHY

BBMP's new khata website gets over 2,000 applications in 4 days

A separate website is designed for the properties which do not have manual khata

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

This initiative of the BBMP to issue new khata will help bring khata-less properties in Bengaluru under the property tax net.
FILE PHOTO

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has received over 2,000 applications for new digital khata on its new website after it was launched on January 13. However, BBMP has not yet issued new khatas.

This separate website (https://bbmp.karnataka.gov.in/newkhata) was designed for properties which do not have manual khata and cannot apply for e-khata on the regular website. BBMP officials say that on the new website, the civic body will issue new digital khatas, and these will not be called e-khatas. The change in terminology is to avoid confusion between e-khata for existing manual khata and new khata. Citizens have to apply for regular e-khata on www.bbmpeaasthi.karnataka.gov.in. E-khata has been mandatory since October 1, 2024, for the registration of properties. BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) Munish Moudgil told *The Hindu* that the website received more than 500 applications for new khata every day in the last four days. In total, more than 2,000 applications were received. BBMP has so far issued more than 1.25 lakh e-khatas on the regular site, and more than 12 lakh draft e-khatas have been downloaded. "The BBMP has not commenced full-fledged promotion of this website. In the coming days, the numbers will increase exponentially, and we will start issuing new khatas. According to rough estimates, there are about 5 lakh such properties in the city," Mr. Moudgil said.

The effort to issue new khata will help bring khata-less properties under the property tax net. A senior BBMP official said those applying for new khata have to pay property tax. It will regularise their tax, which means their property is identified. Those who have been paying tax despite having no manual khata won't have to pay it apart from the regular fee for securing a new khata.

Meat sale prohibited

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In view of the upcoming Aero India 2025 at Yelahanka Air Force Station, the sale of meat has been prohibited from January 23 to February 17, according to an order issued by the Joint Commissioner, Yelahanka Zone, Mohammed Naeem Momin.

The international air show is scheduled to be held for five days from February 10 to 14. In this regard, a ban has been imposed on all meat-related businesses within a 13-kilometre radius of the airbase.

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- Faculty of Allied Health Sciences
- Faculty of Science & Technology

For details related to specialization, eligibility and admission procedure, visit the website: www.bldedu.ac.in Last date for receiving applications: 28-02-2025 by 5.30 pm.

Call for Junior Research Fellowships and Post-Doctoral Fellowships- 2025

Applications are invited from young and self-motivated candidates for the position of Junior Research Fellow and Post-Doctoral Fellow to work under various research projects in BLDE (Deemed to be University).
Apply with complete bio-data & latest passport photo by 20-02-2025 to the Registrar, BLDE (Deemed to be University), Vijayapura-586103, Karnataka, India or email to the registrar@bldedu.ac.in
For details please visit www.bldedu.ac.in or contact to 08352-262770 Extn. 2330

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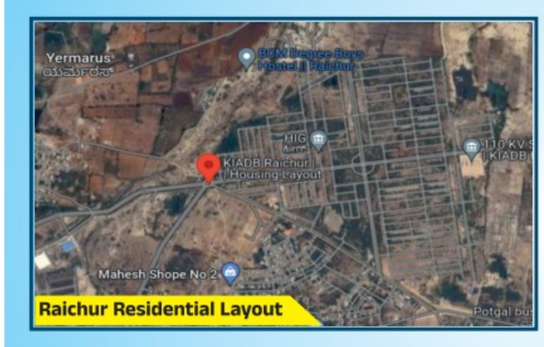

Sl. No	Plots Details	No of Plots	Plot size in Sq. mtr.
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2	LIG	100	9x12m
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4	HIG	157	12x18m
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e-Auction is on
16th & 17th February 2025

For More Details, Contact :
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Raichuru Growth Centre, Housing Layout,
Yermarus, Raichuru-584134.
Email – doballari@kiadb.in,
Website: www.kiadb.in
Contact Details: 84314 96301 /
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M BG-BGE

When Rajinikanth won his first best actor award as a student in a city school

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rajinikanth, one of the biggest superstars of Indian cinema, loves the stage. His love for theatre, before he left for Madras (now Chennai) to try his luck in films, came from his school days. Known as Shivaji Rao Gaekwad before the world embraced him as Rajinikanth, the veteran star studied at Acharya Pathashala Public School (better known as APS) in N.R. Colony in south Bengaluru.

Going down memory lane, Rajinikanth surprised fans by talking about his early tryst with acting in school. The actor, in a video message in Kannada, released on Saturday ahead of the institution's 90th-anniversary celebrations, remembered winning an inter-high school drama competition.

Rajnikant as a student.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"I love telling stories and imitating people. My classmates loved to listen to me. Knowing this, my teachers at APS encouraged me to participate in a drama competition," he said.

"It was a big event with 15-20 schools participating. I was part of the scene where Adi Shankaracharya meets Chandala. Perhaps I looked like Chandala, so I got the role," said Rajinikanth, known for his self-deprecating humour. "I won the best actor award," he added.

"Perhaps my love for acting began from then, and today, I continue to entertain you all with my skills. I am proud of the time spent in APS School and college," said Rajinikanth, a student at the APS during the 1960s. "My days in the institution will forever remain memorable," said the 74-year-old, apologising for his unavailability from the alumni meet due to his shooting commitments.

Other star alumni

Bharat Ratna Prof. CNR Rao, Padma Vibhushan recipient Roddam Narasimha, Kannada star Upendra, and Lahari Velu of Lahari Recording Company are alumni of APS. The alumni meet to celebrate the 90th anniversary of APS will be held on January 26, 2025.

Last year, during the pre-release event of his film *Jailer,* he left the audience thrilled with his recollection of playing Duryodhana in a play during the Karnataka Rajyotsava celebration in Bengaluru. It was a time when he was a BTS bus conductor, still unaware of his destiny.

The actor is currently working for Lokesh Kanagaraj's *Coolie* and Nelson's *Jailer 2*.

Customers sore as demand for idli/dosa batter outstrips supply

Although the batter is being sold only in Bengaluru as of now, the supply is more concentrated in southern and western parts of the city, according to KMF officials

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

When the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) launched whey protein-enriched idli and dosa batters under its Nandini brand, many were eager to try it out.

But with the supply currently not matching the demand, many are disappointed with the non-availability of the product.

"I was very excited to try the Nandini dosa batter since the time they announced it. I enquired at two Nandini parlours near my house. Neither of them had it with them. They said there is no supply," said Vijaya Kumari, a resident of Yelahanka.

Ram Kumar, a resident of Vijaya Bank Layout, had a similar experience. "The salesperson in the Nandini parlour in my area had not seen a single packet of the batter since its launch. He said there is a shortfall in supply, and he is not getting the batter," Mr. Kumar said.

The batter was launched by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on December 25. The batter has 5% whey protein and comes in two quantities - 450 gram and 900 gram packets. The price of 450 grams is ₹40 and 900 grams is ₹80.

The Karnataka Milk Federation plans to introduce the batter in other districts of Karnataka based on the response in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

> Bengaluru is a big city, and it will take some time for us to ensure that the batter is widely available. We are getting a very good response, and are planning to scale up our production, which is currently 5,000 kg per day.
>
> **BHEEMA NAIK,** Chairman, KMF

> I was very excited to try the Nandini dosa batter since the time they announced it. I enquired at two Nandini parlours near my house. Neither of them had it with them. They said there is no supply.
>
> **VIJAYA KUMARI,** A resident of Yelahanka

Although the batter is being sold only in Bengaluru as of now, the supply is more concentrated in southern and western parts of the city, according to KMF officials.

"Bengaluru is a big city, and it will take some time for us to ensure that the batter is widely available. We are getting a very good response, and are planning to scale up our production, which is currently 5,000 kg per day. We thought it will take at least a month or more for the product to become popular, but the demand has been heavy within 10 days," said Bheema Naik, Chairman, KMF told *The Hindu*.

KMF plans to introduce the batter in other districts of Karnataka based on the response in Bengaluru.

From Page One

HC: Audit construction workers' welfare fund

The court pointed out that the reduced education assistance offered in the 2023 notification is equal to the assistance provided in 2011. It observed that "educational assistance to the poor children should only increase and not decrease to such abysmal levels" while pointing out that no reasons are forthcoming as to why the notification resets the clock back to 2011. It termed the government's claim that educational assistance was reduced due to the non-availability of funds as "absolute gibberish." The court said that when ₹6,700 crore has been invested in fixed deposits, the interest generated can cover the entire educational assistance expenses of the children of construction workers.

Noticing petitioners' claim that around ₹1,100 crore was spent from the fund on " inadmissible and wasteful expenditures," including ₹18 crore for Indira canteens, etc., the Court pointed out that CAG's reports for the period 2013-19 also raised several red flags against the State government, disclosing many instances of mismanagement of the fund.

The court also pointed out that there is no accounting of the interest earned on deposits close to ₹7,000 crores. "The action of the State, in treating the funds that belonged to the construction workers and their children as the property of the Board, for bartering away for wasteful expenditure must be stopped, and stopped forthwith," the court observed.

Four persons booked for storming police station

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The accused had a dispute with another group and the parties had filed a complaint and counter complaint

The Chamarajapet police have registered a case against the president of a local mosque and three others for allegedly storming into the police station along with a group of 40 people and manhandling the staff recently.

Based on the complaint filed by Anil Kumar, PSI, a case of assault or use of criminal force against a public servant and unlawful assembly has been registered against Mahboob Khan and three others.

The accused had a dispute with another group over a trivial row and the parties had filed a complaint and counter complaint. Later, the accused, along with a group of 40 people, allegedly gathered at the station and created a ruckus.

The police at the station tried to reason with him, but the group allegedly manhandled the staff and created a ruckus.

The police used additional force to contain the situation and detained a group for questioning for further investigation.

Mahboob Khan had complained earlier that a group of three men tried to kill him and his friends while he was in a car near the Mysuru Road flyover on Tuesday. He further said that he saw three men dump cement blocks from the flyover on his car and escape. Due to the attack, the car was damaged, and he, along with three of his friends, escaped unhurt.

In his complaint, Mahboob Khan said that he saw the attacker and later filed a complaint with the police.

REVENUE COMMISSIONERATE, REVENUE DEPARTMENT
BHOOMI MONITORING CELL
1st floor SSLR Building, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001.
Phone: 080-22113255

No: BMC/2024-25/IND0014 Date: 18.01.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited for Procurement of 4000 Chrome Books to Bhoomi Monitoring Cell office. The last date for uploading filled tender form in e-Procurement portal is **01-02-2025 by 5.30 P.M.**

Details regarding terms and conditions are available at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Assistant Commissioner,
Bhoomi Monitoring Cell, Revenue Department.

DIPR/CP/4425/2024-25

Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru

Short Term Tender Notice No: 24 /2024-25 Date: 17-01-2025

In the above Short Term tender notice, the account title : 8443 Deposit Contribution, 5054-03-101-0-02-132 of Chikkamagaluru District Public Works Department Sub-Divisions , Tenders are invited from eligible contractors through KPP portal for 09 works under the main district road bridges maintenance. Details of the capacity to undertake / Maintain or manage the works (as per Standard Tender Document KW- 1,2 & 3) should be attached, and the contract can be awarded only if the contractor has the minimum qualifications mentioned in Act 3, and the minimum estimated amount is Rs.10.00 lakhs and the maximum estimated amount is Rs.100.00 lakhs. Tenders for 09 works through KPP Portal Tender Process should be submitted (Tender Indent No.:17508, 17739,17742, 17741, 17987, 17738 dated: 05.02.2025; Tender Indent No.:17142 dated:03.02.2025; Tender Indent No.:17819, 17772 dated:27.01.2025) by 4.30 pm.

For more details, please contact the Subject Manager during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.

DIPR/ckm/No.143/24-25/ksmca/1450

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Commissioner for Transport in Karnataka, 1st Floor, T.T.M.C. Building, B.M.T.C. Complex, Shantinagara, Bengaluru.

No: CT/F&B-3/PR-123/2023-24 Date: 18.01.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Quotations are invited by Transport Department from empanelled vendors for Digitization of records in four offices of Transport Department. Quotations along with necessary documents shall be submitted online through e-Procurement platform only. For more details please log on to e-Procurement website: kppp.karnataka.gov.in They may take assistance from e-Procurement help desk at +91-8046010000/+91-8068948777. Last date for submission of Bids is: **14.02.2025 upto 5-00 p.m.**
For clarifications please contact: **080-22235176. Tender No. TD/2024-25/SE0066.**

Sd/-
For Commissioner for Transport Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/4404/MAA/2024-25

Town municipal council Kurugodu
kurugodu Bellari (Dist), Ph:08393-263166
E-mail : ko.kurugodu.tmc@gmail.com Web Site: www.kurugodutown.mrc.gov.in

No;TMCK/15th Fiance & SBM2.0/kurugodu Date: 15.01.2025

E-Tender notification

The Chief officer TMC Kurugodu on behalf of Governor of Karnataka invites Tenders in two cover bid under e-tendering system in KPPP website: http://kppp.Karnataka.gov.in As per Karnataka Transparency in public Procurement Act-1999 rule 2000 from authorised contractor.
Name of work: 01.DMA/2024-25/IND3979. **Estimate cost:** 65.75L. 02 DMA/2024-25/SE4354. **Estimate cost:** 71.03L
Last date for recept of tender: **01.02.2025** 5.00pm and. Date of tender opening: **03.02.2025** 11.00am.The further details of the tender can be obtained from this office during office hours or by logging on to the office E-Mail http://www.kurugodutown.mrc.gov.in

sd/- Chief Officer, TMC,kurugodu
DIPR/Ballari/800/KSMCA/2024-25

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **Ms.NANDINI H. K. RAO,** D/o Sri.H.R.Krishnaswamy Rao, residing at No.1/B, 'Bhavani', Opposite to Ashoka Shishu Vihara, Rangarao Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore-560004.

The said Owner has represented that, the Original Sale Deed dated 13/07/2011 under which the Owner has purchased the Schedule property along with all other original documents have been misplaced/lost and are not traceable and in this regard she has lodged a Complaint on 07/01/2025 with Bengaluru City Police Unit. Further the Owner represents that she has not deposited or otherwise handed over the said Deed of Sale and other documents, to any person/s or Bank or institution and that the Owner has a freehold subsisting marketable title to the Schedule property.

Apart from the said Owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, sub-lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s or claims with the undersigned (along with the photocopies of the documents based on which they rely for asserting their rights), **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Apartment No.203, bearing Municipal No.3/4-3, PID No.49-6-3/4-3, E-PID No.2814353362, measuring 1610 Sq.ft of super built up area, situated at Second Floor of the residential apartment building known as "PANCHAJANYA APARTMENTS", built in the land bearing Municipal No.3/4 measuring East to West 94 ft and North to South 67½ ft, situated at Bull Temple Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore–560018, coupled with 565 Sq.ft of undivided share of right, title and interest in land, together with One reserved covered car parking slot in the stilt floor and bounded on:

East by : Shankar Mutt houses
West by : Apartment No.202
North by : Property No.3/1, belonging to M.R.Sowghandhika Arya
South by : Common passage and entrance to the Apartment.

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Office of the Director General of Police, Police Computer Wing,
7th Floor, M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru 560001.
E-mail: dgppcw@ksp.gov.in Tel No.22353871

No.25/STS/DGP/PCW/2024-25/Call-2 Dated:17.01.2025

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The tender are invited in "Two Cover System" as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through e-Tender of Government of Karnataka website **(www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** for Supply and Install of following items required to the Police Stations across the State.

Sl. No	Tender No.	Particulars	Qty	Last Date for submission of tender
1.	KSP/2024- 25/ IND0138/ call-2	High End Server with graphic card	02	01/02/2025 by 17:30 hrs
2.		Medium End Server with graphic card	03	
3.		Low End Server	05	

Tender forms containing technical specifications, can be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. Those who are willing to implement the project must necessarily be registered in e-Procurement portal. The training about e-Procurement is being provided at e-Procurement cell, e-Governance Department, M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560 001. The vendors may contact the helpline No : 91 - 8046010000 + 91 -8068948777. For further details the vendors are requested to visit the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.Tender document will be available on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**from **18/01/2025.**

Details : **(1) EMD amount : Rs.6,60,000/- (Six Lakh Sixty Thousand only)** which shall be paid online through any of the following modes. (a) Credit Card (b) Debit Card, (c) National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT), (d) Detail of the payment mode as mentioned in the bid document (e-payment document available on website). **(2) Pre bid Meeting :** 23-01-2025 at 12.00 hrs. **(3) Technical bid** : 03-02-2025 at 11.00 hrs **(4) Commercial bid :** 10-02-2025 at 11.30 hrs.

Sd/-
Director General of Police
Police Computer Wing, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/4374/Zen/2024-25

BENGALURU MYSORE INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR AREA PLANNING AUTHORITY
No.5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560009. Ph: 080 22341230 / 35
Email: bmicapa@gmail.com

No. BMICAPA/CLU-02/81/2023-24/1539 Date: 16.01.2025

PUBLICATION

(Under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act, 1961)

Sri Khasim Khan S/o Ibrahim has applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture" Zone to "Educational (Pre Nursery and Nursery School)"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No. 42/11 extent of 00 Acre - 08 Guntas of Lalaghatta Village, Kasaba Hobli, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara District under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid land is reserved for **Agricluture zone** in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;

1. By establishing educational institution in the above said lands students of the nearby surrounding villages will get opportunity to study in this educational institutions which has modern educational amenities.
2. By establishing educational institution in the above said lands there will be job opportunity for the teaching staffs.
3. By establishing educational institution in the above said lands, area surrounding to it will be developed.
4. By establishing educational institution in the above said lands there will be creation of office jobs and so on.

Objection, if any, are invited from the public, any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the above address mentioned in this publication within 15 days from this notice. Any objection recieved after stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/-
Member Secretary
B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/AAA/4430/2024-25

DEPARTMENT FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED AND SENIOR CITIZENS
Podium Block, V.V.Tower, Ground Floor, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi Road, Bangalore 560 001. Telephone No. 080-22866066, 080-22866046
Email Address: **dirdwdscka@gmail.com, dir-dwds-ka@nic.in**

No: DEDASC/2024-25/ IND0050(CALL-2) Date :18.01.2025

Short term Retender Notification
(Through E-Procurement only)

Short term Retender is invited by the Director, Department for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, under e-Procurement platform/e-portal in two parts (i.e., Technical bid and Financial bid) from the original manufacturers or their authorized dealers for supply of 212 Sewing Machine for the Hearing Impaired persons for the year 2024-25 to the Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens. The interested bidders may see further details and may login in website **:www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
The tender can be submitted on or before **26.01.2025 till 03.30PM.** The technical bid will be opened on **27.01.2025 at 04.30 PM** and the financial bid will be opened on **29.01.2025 at 11.30 AM**. Department reserves all rights to accept, reject, incorporate changes and retender without giving any reasons. The details can be obtained from the Department for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Podium Block, V.V. Tower, Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001, Phone No:080-22866066, 28860907. For more info please see department website **www.dwdsc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Director,
Department for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/4438/Zen/2024-25

KARNATAKA STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
Karnataka One State, Many worlds
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office: Ground Floor, B.M.T.C- T.T.M.C Bus Stand, Yeshwanthpur Circle, Bengaluru-560 022.
Ph.: 080-43344334 Fax: 080-43344376 Website: **www.kstdc.co**

No.KSTDC/WS/07/2018-19/2024-25/2357 Date: 17.01.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Limited, Bengaluru invites retender from interested bidders for the following tender.

Tender No: KSTDC/2024-25/ SE0018/CALL-2. **Description:** Selection of Agency for providing Tyre Re-treading Service to KSTDC vehicles. EMD: **Rs. 30,000/-.** Last Date & Time for Bid Submission: **29.01.2025 at 14.00 Hrs**

The detailed tender documents are available in the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For any further clarifications contact +91 8023010900, +91 8023010901. Email support: hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com

Sd/- General Manager (Admin),
Tender Inviting Authority, KSTDC.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

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Classifieds

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LIFE MADE SIMPLE

THE HINDU

Matrimonial

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

ATTRACTIVE, CARING, 28, 168cm, active professional (US MS). Seeking driven, kind, compatible partner. Community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

HINDU ISSUELESS Divorcee 48 MBA, ACS Seeks Bride Groom CNB. Contact: 9445366062

DOCTOR

HINDU TAMIL BC Doctor 27/ 175 cm Fair, Clear Horoscope Seeks Tall Handsome PG Doctors / PG Engineers / Well settled with Good Habits from Simple family.Contact with Full view photograph, horoscope and biodata. Ph.7200365364

HINDU, MUDALIYAR, Tamil, Chennai, MD and Fellowship in Pediatrics, Age 32 Years, working in reputed Medical college, Chennai seeks bridegroom from well settled, well–educated family in the same profession, Engineers with PG, Contact 94448 41350

HINDU REDDY Surgeon 34Y 165cms Own Practice. Seeks Suitable Groom, Any Profession from Dubai, Singapore, India. CNB, 89256 40111.

PG DOCTOR GROOM WANTED
Good looking Doctor girl MBBS, MD OG (pg ongoing) 24 yrs / 167 cm Star - Avittam Rasi - Makaram. Doctor Parents Nattar / Kamma Naidu Own Hospital seeking clinical PG Doctor from Affluent / well educated family
Contact : 6380069015 9790288125
WHATSAPP msg: 9976532632

USA /DOCTOR 27 YRS FROM THANJAVUR DOING NEUROLOGY RESIDENCY AT NEW JERSEY SEEKS DOCTOR GROOM
Whatsapp 9677026459

BRIDEGROOM WANTED
Smart, Pretty, Cultured Homely Doctor Girl, MD, Anaesthesiology Specialist from Affluent Family of Doctors 35/165
Father Cardiac Surgeon from Kerala, based in Chennai, Mother Tamil.
Looking for doctor groom (or) Engineer from good families
98400 50381 / 98409 85383

HINDU, ADI DRAVIDA, 25yrs/156cms, Fair, M.B.B.S settled in Chennai seeks Doctor Groom. Whatsup: 94442 18149

ENGINEER

Mudaliar / Vanniar 30Y/165 cm Doctor MBBS, fellowship in Diabetology seeks Engineer grooms. Ph: 94444 54188

Match for Rajasthani Brahmin Engineer Girl, BE Metallurgy, PG from France working in Aurangabad Maharastra in a reputed Company. DOB 05/03/1997 Height 168 cm Contact +91 9711505086

ENGLISH

Vadakalai, Kousigam, Poordam (4), May 1994 B.Com.,A.C.A.,C.S., Girl seeks Qualified Grooms only Iyengar & Iyer Contact : 9940598204

IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

Tamil/SC/ March 93/ IRS (DC) Girl, seeks Groom from IAS and Allied Service/ Dr. In MD/MS/SS - caste no bar/ Contact: 9042261465.

MALAYALAM

VISWAKARMA GIRL from elite family, 27/158 cm, Pooyam, MBA, Operations Analyst in MNC - 9447000579, 9074673232.

DELHI BASED Nair Girl 29 /145cm, Pooram 1.5 dosham pursuing PhD in Edinburgh UK Seek alliance pref from same community pref Palakkad / Trichur and nearby districts. Contact: 9818364188.

MALAYALAM

MALAYALAM VISWAKARMA Bride, 27/150, B.E., Civil., settled in Madurai, Upper Middle Class, Good proposals from Kollam or Thiruvananthapuram based family who settled in Madurai or Nearby District. Not Bureau. Ct: 7667765588

MBA / CA / ICWA

29Y, BE MBA (IIT) Hindu Tamil girl 160cm Rohini Wkg MNC B'lore 25 LPA Father retd scientist seeks prof qual boy pref Pune Mumbai B'lore. Ph: 9371392775.

NRI

Hindu Telugu Never married 44/168 MS USA working seeking 45-47 Never married working in USA CNB 9866274192

ARADHANA, 30, 170 cm, PG (Health) , Makam, EHO in Australia (Citizen) , Seeks well educated Groom (Nair/ Menon/ Pillai/ Tamil Brahmin/Mudaliyar). Ct:+91 98414 28004/ WhatsApp +61 416 927 100/ ckuknair@gmail.com

TAMIL

RC CHRISTIAN Vellalar, 31/176 CM, B. Tech MBA. PWC Bangalore 35LPA. Seeks God fearing, well Educated working Professional Contact: 8870520107 / 9952719542

CHRISTIAN, CASTE no bar, 34 Yrs, MCA, Engineer, Income 50 Lakhs. Ct 8138901097

CATHOLIC VELLALAR Girl 32 /171 MBBS MPH student visa Texas, USA Seeks professional from USA Ct:9150153743

GROOM REQD Christian,27yrs, MBA (UK),Well Educated Family,CNB, Need Abroad Profiles 9710093999/ 9710091999

CHRISTIAN, NADAR, 34 Yrs, Remarriage, MS, Doctor , Rich and affluent family. Ct 8138900537

CHRISTIAN, RC, 30 Yrs, B.E, Manager at London, Income 1 Crore. Ct 8138900530

✔ **TAMIL MUSLIM girl 38, Engineer, seeks qualified, employed, Unmarried Tamil Muslim Groom. 9444235779**

LOOKING FOR Christian Bridegroom for the girl working in USA startup aged 26. End time message 8939250457

BORN AGAIN christian, 44yrs/152, MBBS, MD. doctor, seeks christian groom, Chennai. CT–9500188067

GOD FEARING Christian CSI Nadar affluent family invites Proposal for their daughter fair, beautiful, well educated employed in a foreign embassy in Chennai. Her monthly Income Rs. 5 Lakhs. Groom shall be well educated from well to do family, age 32 to 36. Parents Contact 9790787919.

CHRISTIAN, RC, 31 Yrs, MBBS, Doctor at Kanyakumari, Upper middle class family. Ct 8138901181

CHRISTIAN, CASTE no bar, 34 yrs, Divorced, MS , doctor, Income 50 Lakhs. Ct 8138900372

MUDALIAR, 24/5.3" M.sc Neuro Lecturer Chennai seeks suitable Bride Groom Ct : 98400 37406 / 99404 20003

SC/ST Community Girl (Hindu) 29/155 cm B.Tech (Chemical Engg) seeks groom from State Govt / Central Govt / Pvt organisation. Contact: 99692 28297 / 98196 30507

DOCTOR MD (Pathology) DCH 39yrs Hindu BC, Divorcee without child, working in a private hospital, seeks well settled, compatible, decent & affectionate Groom CNB Ct: 9176289180

AGAMUDI MUDALIAR Elite Family 33/ 165 Mirugasim Raghu in Lagnam, PG in HR (Asst. Manager,MNC) Seeks IIM/PG Groom, Age Upto 38yrs. 9176780777.

GROOM WANTED Rich Mudaliyar 25yrs MBBS, MS Own Transports& Resorts business family 9710093999/ 9710091999

HINDU, VANNIYAR, 26 Yrs, B.Arch, Architect at Chennai, Income 10 Lakhs. Ct 7356483111

HINDU, PILLAI, 25 Yrs, MBBS, Doctor at Chennai, Income 12 Lakhs. Ct 8138900557

HINDU SC.AD Magam girl 29/157cm MCA. TL @ Infosys 12LPA. Seeking Same caste groom from Chennai. 9840365908

MUDALIAR 32 DM (Cardiology) Seeks PG Doctors / Engineers/CAs /Govt Officers from Any Mudaliar Community Ct:9445151998

TAMIL

MUDALIAR 26, BE, MBA, 162cm,Good Looking well Settled Family Seeks Alliance CNB, Ct.8778514465/ 7200866346

HINDU NADAR, 30 yrs, M.Arch, MS (US) Elite Business Family in Chennai 9841329471 / 9380791999

✔ **HINDU VANNIYAKULA Kshatriya girl Chennai 27 yrs smart modern outlook professionally qualified post graduation from UK upper middle class family seeks professionally qualified well placed like minded grooms from good family background from same or similar castes WhatsApp 9840143838**

HINDU ARUNTHATHIAR Jana Kilai 36 Yrs Asst. Professor 5 Lakhs PA 6379366910, 9524829734.

HINDU, SC/AD, 38/163, Fair, B. Tech(CSE), SWP, Moolam–Dhanusu, Never married, Chennai, seeks Professionally Qualified, Never married groom below 42 yrs, From India/Abroad, Caste–No–Bar, Ct:8754566571

GROOM WANTED Sujitha Mudaliar Caste No Bar 35 years BE MS Working in Boston. Ph: 9444141955

HINDU NADAR B.Tech / MBA, Industrialist, 26/166 Mumbai Based Seeking Suitable Groom. Contact: 8424058261

MUDALIAR (CNB): 24/ V. Fair, B.Tech ,MS (USA),MNC, Eng, USA, 500000PM, Seeks groom only Abroad–9962530015

BEAUTIFUL, WARM, 26, 160cm, well–educated, polished, UK–raised professional from affluent Nadar family of doctors. Seeks active, driven, compatible partner. Call/WA 9345634365

HINDU,SCAD ,29 years,MDS Tamil girl, Bangalore Seeks suitable bridegroom for early Marriage. Father is Former Director GOI. Contact:70911 91206

HINDU PILLAI PG in Medical, MS (O& G), Age 28,158 cm, Seeks Suitable Groom from same Caste. Ct 9600098127

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 25 yrs, LLM, Legal Advisor at Chennai, Upper middle class family. Ct 8138900487

TAMIL SENGUNTHAR 24 150cms software engineer mnc Chennai seeks well–educated groom working in Chennai CT 9952054930/ 8668190730

Sengunthar 25/167 Cm, IT-Chennai. Anusham / Vrichigam seeks suitable groom. Ct: 99403 38277 / 8754543268

Mudaliar 25/173 , MBA wrking in Pvt Bank 6.7LPA well educated & well settled family seeks groom. 9444669533

HINDU MUTHURAJA, 44, NRI PhD Scientist, USA, never married, Musiri–Trichy native, on Musiri vacation. Seeks match (no divorcees). 9944310533

SC AD Hindu Bride Age 25/163, BE, MBA Thiruvonam/Magaram Working in Nationalized Bank, Seeking from the same Community Preferably Chennai Groom Bank/Govt Job from well Educated Family, below 30yrs.Ct 9443643415

HINDU GIRL, 27, BE (Mechanical), MS (NUS), 4 yrs abroad MNC experience, seeks Professional Groom, Intercaste parents. 9445531558

Hindu Nadar, Kanyakumari M.E (App. Elect) Anna University 28/172, slim fair seeks suitable groom. Whatsapp: 80727 02352 / bevin.itc@gmail.com

DKV/ PALLAN 28yrs B.E, working Indl Automation,Chennai father Sr.engr Rly (R) mother DGM-ONGC seeks groom, clean habits, same caste, Govt.Emp/ PSU/Pvt. 814894 9077/ 94450 05474

ELITE CLASS tamil family of Bangalore seeks a suitable class match from Bangalore for their only daughter '99 born. (080–69129253)

AFFLUENT BUSINESS class Tamil family seeks suitable match from Bangalore for their daughter (Mtech) 1999 born. (080–69129253)

MUDALIAR 24/160 Fair Beautiful,BE, SWE,Capgemini 800000.PA,Well Settled Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

CASTE NO Bar, 28yrs, MBBS, MD, Elite Business family, Seeks suitable Groom Contact:9710093999/ 9710091999

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar,27yrs,B. Arch, Elite Business Family Contact: 9710093999 /9710091999

HINDU NADAR 28 years well educated, good looking. Father Army officer. Seeks well settled Groom with clean habits. Preferably from uniformed service. Ct : 94436 10323.

HINDU, VANNIYAR, 31 yrs, MBBS, Doctor at Chennai , Income 9 Lakhs. Ct 9072777804.

TAMIL

MUDALIAR: 25/V.FAIR, MBA, doing Father Business, Chennai, Elite family – Seeks groom Business / Industrialist – 8925019776

HINDU NADAR 21years,B.COM, MBA–pursuing working in software 12Lacs p/a Elite Family 9380791999/ 9841329471

HINDU, VEERA saivam, 34 Yrs, B.E, Engineer at Coimbatore, Income 1 Crore. Ct 8138900498

IYER VADAMA, Naithrupa Kasyapa, Arudra, 28/167 cm, CA CFA, seeks professionally qualified Tamil Brahmin Groom with clean habits preferably from Thane/Mumbai. WA 9136163110/E–Mail matchs7587@gmail.com

IYENGAR VADAKALAI Bharatwajam Tiruvonum 30/164 cm fair slim v.good looking Seeks Prof Qlfd handsome Iyengar/Iyer Grooms max 3 yrs diff. Ph: 9940519267

Wanted Groom for UK based Iyer girl Vadama Vadoola fair 32/165 cm doing Post Doc Research in Cambridge University . Ph: +919895977153

Wanted Groom for UK based Tamil Iyer girl 26/160cm Gowthama Gothiram Brahacharnam very fair working in Glasgow UK . Ph: +91 9448283023

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ELITE BRIDES WANTED

ARYA VYSYA, 27, 180 cms, MS, Businessman. Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

NAIDU, 25, 180 cms, Bachelors, Businessman. Lives in USA. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

CHRISTIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC, 26, 183 cms, Businessman, MS. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community from any location. Contact: 6366448344

CHRISTIAN CSI, 32, 180 cms, MBA, Finance Professional. Lives in USA. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

BRAHMIN, 32, 160 cms, Working Professional, MBA. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

MUDALIYAR, 26, 165 cms, M.Arch, Architect. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded and well educated match. Contact: 6366448343

REDDY, 30, 160 cms, Entrepreneur, B.Design. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community from Chennai. Contact: 6366448344

NAIDU, 31, 170 cms, MBA, Marketing Professional. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Working Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

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TAMIL

Adi-Dradiva 28/160 Hastam B.E,B.Ed seeks Professionally Qualified, settled Groom, same caste. Ct: 97896 68845

MUDALIAR UTHIRADAM 45/ 167 B.Sc, MBA business seeks educated, employed groom. Caste no bar. 9176999073

SC AD 37 BE Software Engineer, TCS 1.50L/Month Chennai. seeks suitable Groom. Caste no bar. Ct: 99521 47216

Mudaliyar, 27/154cm Mirugasirisa B.Com, MBA, Fair, Homely Girl, High Middle Class seeks suitable Groom Ct: 94445 47499 / 94449 35026

Tamil Hindu Nadar 34/158, Pooradam Dhanusu, IAS- Maharastra, Divorcee, no issue preferred Hindu Groom Caste No Bar. Ct: 9445282905 / 9445704985

Tamil Iyer girl, 28 years old, 166 cm tall, Bharani Nakshatram, Athreya Gothram, from an affluent and respected family in Chennai. She runs her own social media marketing business and is seeking a well-educated, employed, and never-married groom under 33 years old from a Tamil Brahmin family. Subsect and location are not a constraint.
WhatsApp details to her father at 9381086646.

DIVORCEE

HANDSOME NRI 44, 173cm, warm, Harvard–educated, Europe–based diplomat. Divorced; no kids. Seeks thoughtful, compatible partner. Religion & community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365

DOCTOR

CHENNAI BASED Doctor MD groom 1990 Height– 178cm, fair, seeks suitable any Brahmin doctor bride MD/ MS. contact 9968045739.

Hindu Adi Dravida, 29/160cms, Fair M.D., Anesthesia settled in Chennai. seeks Doctor bride CNB. 63697 02539

MALAYALAM

CHENNAI SETTLED Nair Boy 27/173, BE,MBA, Mageeram Shudha Jadhagam, Consultant in MNC Chennai. 9840838971

NRI

SMART, HANDSOME 37, 175cm, MEng (US), in Big Tech ($400K+), broad–minded, US–based S.Indian. Seeks warm, beautiful, compatible bride. Language/caste no bar. Call/WA 9345634365

TELUGU

BALIJA NAIDU 30yrs/ 153cm (Star–Rohini) Working in Pvt Company. Seeks Suitable Groom @ Chennai 9884846447

SEEKING NAIDU Groom, well educated born not after 1987 for a smart research scholar born August 1990 hailing from a respectable family. Contact: 9790908109

Telugu 34yrs Girl B.E, M.S, Divorced Working in USA. seeks BrideGroom must work in USA. Caste No Bar. Cont: 90922 80967

BEAUTIFUL BALIJA Naidu, 24, 170cm, M Sc Fashion Designing, Employed, affluent family, seeks well–qualified and employed affluent grooms 9842362455

GROOM WANTED Rich Kamma Naidu, 25yrs, MBBS, MS, Elite Business Family Contact:9710093999 / 9710091999

BRIDES WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

ALLIANCE SOUGHT for chennai based employed christian groom 50 divorcee without encumbrance. Ph–9444582781

SMART, SUCCESSFUL, 30, 180cm, UK–educated professional from cultured family. Seeking educated, attractive, compatible partner. Religion & community no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

BRIDE WANTED Age 46 Second Marriage Very Well Settled, Expectation 6 Crore Above. Widow, Divorcee, Physically Challenged. Age Caste No Bar. Whatsapp: 98846–71173

YATHAVA B.COM 39, Star Revathi, Well Settled Own House @ Nellai. Remarriage OK. Caste No Bar 9442725926

DIVORCEE

A DIVORCED male, aged 60, who is professionally stable and financially independent, seeks girl with a compatible divorcee/widow, without children. kindly contact 63857 54610 Serious inquiries only.

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 34 Yrs, Remarriage, B.tech, IT Professional at Chennai, Income 20 Lakhs. Ct 8138900470

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 36yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride.9003983230

CHRISTIAN, CASTE no bar, 25 yrs, MS, Software developer at California. Affluent with a good net worth. Ct 8138900575.

RC CHRISTIAN, 42yrs/170. B.E. Software Engineer, never married, works for mnc, Chennai. CT–9500188067

WANTED R.C Bride Tamil/English Good looking, Professional Working/ Settled in Australia, for Groom–Energetic Mechanical Engineer, 30/ 175, PR Status, Professional job in Australia. CT: 9442084403 / 9843571399

CHRISTIAN, CSI, 28 yrs, B.Sc, Nurse at Dubai. Income 20 lakhs. Ct 8138901281

CHRISTIAN DOCTOR 85/5.7 MBBS, MD Pediatric, Neonatology Seek Good Looking Bride. Medical, Non Medical. 8610020066 / 9443326119

TAMIL

PILLAI / MUDALIAR. B.Tech. MBA. HR. IT. 29/167cm. Poorattadhi. N.V. Chennai. Well settled, educated family. Seeks employed girl. 94443 67697

AGAMUDAIYAR UTHIRADAM 34/180 B.Tech, TCS, Hyderabad, 2Lpm, seeks Equally Qualified bride, Caste No Bar. Contact:8220984182

AGAMUDAIYAR, UTHIRAM/KANNI 35/180, BE, HRM, Job at Canada, Canadian Citizen, Seeks BE,Nursing, any degree bride.CNB. Ct:9442993042

MUDALIAR:29/ 178CM, Handsome, B.Tech,Business, Having own Manufacturing Industry, Hotels, Com. Complex, Chennai, Only son, Elite Family– seeks bride any degree – 9840866993, 8939012419

HINDU, SC, 31 Yrs, MBA, Software Engineer at Bangalore, Income 15 Lakhs. Ct 8138900412

SAIVA PILLAI 39, Divorcee.BE/MBA, MNC,Bangalore, Seeks First Marriage Bride in Thirunelveli/ Thanjavur Saiva Pillai/ Karkathar Society only.Ct: 8072215374/ 9344701672

TELUGU

NAIDU 29/154/FAIR/CA/MNC Veg God Fear Seeks Educated PG Groom from well settled Decent Family. 9444361010

NAIDU 24/165 Fair,Beautiful B. Tech, SWE,TCS, 800000.PA, Well Settled Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

RICH KAMMA Naidu, 25 yrs, MBBS, MS, Elite Family in Chennai Contact: .9710093999 / 9710091999

URDU

35YRS GOOD looking fair complexion well settled divorcee seeks pious Urdu Muslim groom, willing to settle in tirupur. Contact – 9443746696

MUSLIM URDU Bride 30, LL.M, M.Sc seeks qualified employed groom 30-35 yrs, Tamilnadu only. Ph: 9940641555

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN, CASTE no bar, 28 yrs , MIB, Self Employee at Coimbatore, Well settled family. Ct 9048444840

HINDU, CASTE No Bar, 34 Yrs, B.E, Engineer at Hyderabad, Income 20 Lakhs. Ct 8138901171

HINDU NADAR Age 31 / 170 cms BE MSc VISCOM Senior Designer MNC Bangalore, Seeks Vegetarian Bride, Caste No Bar. Ct : annapoorna53@gmail.com , 9496601948

HINDU NADAR, 29yrs, BE, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9380791999/ 9841329471

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 31 yrs, B.E, MBA, Managing Director, Income 20 Lakhs. Ct 8138900547

HINDU ENGINEER 43,working at Malaysia Rs.30L/Yr Looking for a Bride with Equal Profile CNB Ct:9789889470

HINDU, SC, PR, 29yrs, 175cm, M.E., AE-NIOT, Ph.D, 6 LPA, Chennai Seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9944692338

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar 28yrs MS(US) Own Industries in Chennai business family 9710093999/ 9710091999

35YEARS, B.TECH, 173cm, 70kgs, Brownish Colour, Working as Manager in Govt Bank, 18 LPA, Settled in Chennai, Father IRSS (Retd), Mother SBI (Retd), Own Houses in Chennai, Seeking Suitable Match with Good Background. Ph:9940507235

ALLIANCE INVITED from parents of Bride for my boy now in Chennai but working in U.S, Age 32, in well to do Status.Ct: 9840456644, 9840636662

AGE 47, 2nd Marriage, Working in Hospital at Qatar. Suitable Bride who willing to come Qatar. Ct: +97433840227 / 9498328263

VELLALA 33 Vegan 179cm Gym body Fair MBA own Business Rich seeks Grad Veg/Vegan Bride CNB Call 9282141551

HINDU Nadar, 35Yrs/180 cm, Chennai based Groom, well settled, fair, BE IIM MBA, 35L seeks bride.CT:9894979911

BTech BITS Pilani Mudaliar Height 183 cm born Nov 91 MNC Bangalore Sal 65 lacs seeks Bride Tamil, Telugu. Contact: 7382620365

SMART ADVOCATE 30 Mukkulathore only son Parents Professionals seeks any caste Professionals. India/ Abroad. Email : drskmddv@gmail.com

VELLORE AGAMUDAYA Mudaliyar, Rishabam,38/165,BE SWE,MNC Chicago USA,1L USD/A,Seeks working SWE. 9487624807

HINDU–BE/33/170CM/SWE/SC/AYILLAM–KATAGAM. FAMILY is financially well off –educated and settled in Bangalore. Looking for a suitable Bride from same/other community. Contact 9845401461.

BRIDE WANTED Hindu Nadar,28yrs, B.Tech, MBA,2lakhs pm, Elite Business Family Cont 9380791999 / 9841329471

VANNIAR 47/173 Sadhayam, M.Tech Chennai based boy, Working in US as Structural Engineer 1.5 Lpm (First Marriage). Seeks Slim Graduate bride, Settled / Working in US. Ct: 8838274003

AUDITOR/ 45 Chennai/ 30 L p.a Seeks Any Vegetarian Hindu Girl. Contact : 9884398109

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 25 yrs, MBA, Production Manager at Bangalore. Rich and affluent family. Ct 8138901383

HINDU, MUDALIYAR, 25 Yrs, B.E, Production Manager at Chennai, Upper middle class family.Ct 8138900523

HINDU, BRAHMIN, 29 Yrs, MBA, Business at Madurai, Business class family. Ct 9072777801.

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 28 yrs, MSW, Finance manager at Coimbatore. Ct 8138900305

SEEKING GIRL for our son (Age 29) Engineer in UAE. Mother Brahmin Father Nattuukkottai Chettiar. 9444260006.

CASTE NOBAR 40/164cm Teamlead 18LPA MNC Bangalore looking for educated good looking girl. Contact 9742224560 chockalingamp@gmail.com

HINDU NADAR, 40/185cm, M.Tech(IIT Madras), Sr. Principal Engineer (Chip Design) in an MNC in Bangalore, eggetarian, teetotaller, seeks never married, suitable bride (upto 36 yrs), Caste No Bar. Ct: 9840117920.

BRIDE FOR Hindu Nanjil Vellalar boy aged 29/ 175/ Avittam –Kumbam rasi/asst manager/NABARD/ 9487473583/ neela66cv@gmail.com

REDDY PARENTS seek alliance for only son, BE(ECE), 35y/169cm, fair, good looking, employed in Chennai, 7L/year, divorcee with no encumbrance, Punarpoosam-1, Vegetarian Ct: 8072205041

TAMIL

TAMIL VANNIYAR 43 first marriage SSLC own Business Bangalore seeks bride from same caste 9844054463

VANNIYAR, MS (USA) 31/172 Swathi Fair, Employed in USA seeks well educated suitable bride. Ct: 9840850716

MUDALIAR 32, M Com, MBA, 181 cm 12 Lacs PA, Well Settled Family Seeks Bride CNB 87785 14465 / 72008 66346

PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED family seeks a suitable match for their son '93 born (Mtech, USA) working in Bangalore. Father is working as director in an MNC. (080–69129253)

MUDALIAR 30/185 Handsome, B. Tech,ML. IIT,SWE,MNC,USA, 150000. USD.PA,Afflunet, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

DOCTOR ,53 fair, divorced no issues, well settled seeks compatible bride CNB WA 8807301306

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar, 30yrs, BE, Elite business family 9962791888

SC AD 28/M.sc.,Cent.Govt. Job(CSIR – CLRI) 60,000p.m.Govt. Or Pvt. Seeks Brides.Ph.9444993417 / 7397674481

SC 32/170CM RBI Manager Looking for Well Educated Girl. Caste / Language No Bar. Call : 9789973235

HINDU NADAR BE, 27/175 , Well Settled Entrepreneur seeks Suitable Well Educated Bride Contact: 8424058261

HINDU, MUTHARAIYAR, 29 yrs, B.Sc, B.P.E.D, Business entrepreneur at Coimbatore. Ct 8138900316

VANNIYAR 34/ 165 M.Phil, Consultant, Apollo well settled seeks Graduate bride. Caste no bar. 9884726806

IYER VADAMA Kaushika Krittikai 1998/178 cms BTech/MBA Mumbai based Software Consultant boy from affluent family seeks suitable professionally qualified bride. Ct 9223411370

IYER TAMIL Divorcee 50yrs SWE MNC Chennai Seeks Minimum Graduate without Issues. Caste No Bar 9841942915

HINDU, BRAHMIN, 31 Yrs, B.tech, Business at Chennai, Income 7 Lakhs. Ct 8138901227

WANTED BRIDE
God Fearing Rich Family, Vanniyar Padayatchi Settled in Tiruchirappalli invites Proposal for their 2nd Son, Rasi-Viruchigam, Star-Kettai, Age 30, Fair, 175 cm, BE Civil. Owns a Luxury 4 Star Hotel (Hotel Vijayarani) Opp. Govt. Hospital, Trichy, adorns as MD of the Hotel and also Constructs his Own Apartment (Builder). Besides many Assets. NO BAD HABITS.
Caste No Bar
Parent Contact 94431 24712
ramalingaji@gmail.com

TAMIL

HINDU NADAR 27 Years/ 185cms/ B.Arch, Elite Business Family in Chennai Seeks Suitable Bride. Call: 9884614579, WhatsApp: 9176399999.

KASYB IYR Barani 39/180 PhD diss (Germny) Mutual Divorcee Bride qualifd from Good family. Widows/ divs skip. 9444551216, srisivapuri@gmail.com

TAMIL IYER Boy 34 MS in FLORIDA On a short visit to Chennai.Seeking Any South Indian Brahmin Good looking Professional Girl from India/ Abroad WhatsApp ,+447885297926, +919444826978,Ph +919444826978

Naidu 28/165 ME Chennai Design Engineer MNC Affluent Family CNB Contact: 9841097110.

CHRISTIAN, RC Nadar, 30/170cm, B.E., MS(US), working in EV manufacturing in US,Good habits,High Income, caring individual from a well educated family seeking a good looking, God fearing partner from a good family. Contact: 9487169388

HINDU, VISWAKARMA, 26 Yrs, B.E, MBA, Business Analyst at Bangalore, Upper middle class family. Ct 8138901190

TELUGU

Thulavella/ Naidu 32/182 B.E,chennai based Wealthy Family,Teetotaler seeks suitable bride. Ct: 98410 36017

NAIDU 29/180 Handsome,B.Tech, S.T.Associate,IBM, 2400000.PA, Afflunet Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

BALIJA NAIDU: 32/ 170, Handsome, B.Com, MBA, Entertainment Business & Plastic Processing Machinery, Industrial Coatings, Chennai, Elite Family, seeks bride any degree – 9840293338 / 9840289660

Hyderabad Based Telugu Brahmin Groom 27/180/Fair B.Tech IT 24 LPA Elite Family Seeks Telugu Brahmin Bride MBBS/B.Tech/CA, Mail your Biodata to shiv950@yahoo.com

BRIDE WANTED
For Telugu Brahmin 35 yrs 178 cms Pushyam B.Tech M.Sc (Germany) Working in Germany Large MNC Citizen. Qualified Bride employed in Germany / from other Countries / India willing to migrate. **TELUGU / TAMIL / KANNADA BRAHMIN WELCOME.**
Ct: 9840112664.
rudram.eswara@gmail.com

Hindu Naidu, MBA, 1973, 178 cms, Looks younger, Unmarried, clean habits, MD of Ltd company. Able administrator, Affluent family seeks suitable **Bride from similar business / industrialist family.**
Ct: 98 18 19 19 19
manojceo1958@gmail.com

URDU

34 YRS, IT Professional in Bangalore, 1.5 Lakhs Per Month issueless divorcee from a reputed Dakkani family in Trichy, looking for an educated girl. Contact: 98410 60600

URDU MUSLIM Parents looking Alliance for son Age 27, Business in Chennai Well Settled Family, Chennai Based Bride 9444011292

MARRIAGE BUREAU

US UK Canada All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

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State saw sharp rise in recorded snakebites, deaths last year

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

The recorded cases of snakebite envenoming and deaths in Karnataka have seen a sharp rise from 6,596 bite cases and 19 deaths in 2023 to 13,235 bite cases and 101 deaths in 2024. This follows Karnataka declaring snakebite envenoming cases and deaths notifiable under the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020, in February 2024.

Snakebite envenoming is a neglected tropical disease caused by the bite of a venomous snake, that is usually accidental. While a total of 3,439 cases and 17 deaths were recorded by the State Health Department in 2022, this year so far (from January 1 to 18), there have been 415 cases and three deaths.

In 2024, while Hassan reported the highest number of cases at 850, Chickballapur and Mysuru followed with 813 and 790 cases, respectively. The highest number of snakebite deaths was recorded in Tumakuru (nine) followed by Koppal and Kalaburagi (eight each) and Bagalkot and Shivamogga (six each), according to data from the State's Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal.

Following a huge gap between the number of snakebite envenoming and deaths reported from direct surveys and in the official data, Karnataka declared snakebite deaths and cases notifiable under the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020, in February 2024. This is much ahead of the Centre's letter to States on November 27 last year asking them to declare snakebites as a notifiable disease. Following the declaration, the State Health Department directed all hospitals and medical colleges (teaching hospitals), including private facilities, to mandatorily enter all snakebite cases and deaths on the portal.

Year-wise snakebite cases, deaths

2022	3,439 cases	17 deaths
2023	6,596 cases	19 deaths
2024	13,235 cases	101 deaths
2025 (till January 18)	415 cases	3 deaths

Districts with highest number of cases in 2024	Districts with highest deaths in 2024
Hassan: 850	Tumakuru: Nine
Chickballapur: 813	Koppal, Kalaburagi: Eight each
Mysuru: 790	Bagalkot, Shivamogga: Six each
Mandya: 763	Vijayanagara, Mandya: Five each
Davangere: 759	Uttara Kannada, Mysuru, Dakshina Kannada, Chitradurga, Ballari: Four each

Improved surveillance
Attributing the rise in the cases to improved reporting by hospitals, Ansar Ahmed, State Project Director, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, said making snakebites notifiable had led to better surveillance. "It has resulted in better monitoring, response, and mitigating the effects of snakebites, which have long posed a severe public health concern, especially in the tribal and rural areas," he said.

Reporting of snakebite cases and deaths on the IHIP portal began in October 2021. Prior to this, it was being done through the Communicable Diseases division. Reporting of many cases is missed as most people in rural areas go to traditional faith healers," he said.

To reduce the incidence and severity of snakebites and minimise the associated health and economic burden on affected communities, Karnataka has developed a strategic framework involving various departments under the 'State Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming," Dr. Ansar said.

The doctor pointed out that the State has an adequate stock of anti-venom for snakebites, with 60,000 vials available in all health facilities from the primary health centre (PHC) level, and added: "Anti-venom should ideally be administered within six hours of the bite. We have trained our ANMs and ASHA workers on proper handling of snakebite cases while ensuring that patients are immediately shifted to the nearest health facility for treatment. We have also intensified our public awareness and information, education and communication campaign."

The 'big four'
Globally, there are approximately 2,000 species of snakes, with 310 species found in India alone. Out of these, 66 species are venomous and pose a serious threat to human health. The 'big four' venomous species in India are the Indian cobra, common krait, Russell's viper, and the saw-scaled viper. In addition to these, Karnataka is home to several region-specific venomous snakes, such as the king cobra, the Malabar pit viper, and the hump-nosed pit viper, the doctor said.

Chouhan assures growers of allaying fears over arecanut's health hazards

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan has promised arecanut growers that the government will make all efforts to allay the fears that areca could cause serious health hazards, including cancer.

Addressing growers at Sagar in Shivamogga district on Saturday, Mr. Chouhan expressed surprise over the World Health Organization's report suggesting that areca could cause cancer. There is a need for detailed research on the issue, he said. The Centre had entrusted 16 research institutes, including the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, and the Indian Institute of Science, to conduct research and submit reports, he said.

Fresh harvest: Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan at a convention of areca growers at Sagar in Shivamogga district on Saturday. He was accompanied by MPs Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri and B.Y. Raghavendra. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Reports to court
"I will be in touch with the research institute regularly and get their reports and submit them to the Supreme Court. I am confident that the studies will allay the fears about areca. I don't think it causes any health hazards. Our people have been consuming it for hundreds of years," the Union Minister said.

Arecanut, Mr. Chouhan said, had a prominent place in our culture. "People use arecanut while offering prayers to the almighty. In our house, we consume it and offer it to our guests. India is the largest producer of areca in the world, and over 60 lakh farmers are engaged in its cultivation," he said.

Regarding the yellow-leaf disease and leaf spot disease affecting the areca plantations, Mr. Chouhan said a team of experts was set up to find solutions to the problem. The government would earmark ₹67 crore in the coming Budget to implement the recommendations of the experts' committee. He also appealed to the State government to join hands in tackling the problems. "I wish the State government also contributed funds to our efforts to find a solution to the problems being faced by areca growers," he said.

Minimum import price
The Union Minister said the Centre had increased the minimum import price of areca from ₹251 a kg to ₹351. "If necessary, we will increase it further so that our native farmers are benefitted," he said. On the illegal import of inferior quality arecanut, the Minister said he would hold a meeting with officers concerned on the issue soon after returning to Delhi and ensure that strict measures were taken to stop it.

Karnataka Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa said the BJP had promised a research centre for areca in Shivamogga in 2014. "I appeal to the Minister to fulfil the promise. Shivamogga district is the largest areca-producing district in the country. The centre should be set up here. The State government will extend its support in establishing the centre," he said. He recalled that in 2002, the CFTRI in Mysuru had conducted a study on areca and certified that it would not cause any health problems, if it is not mixed with gutka.

War of words between BYV and Yatnal faction escalates

Vijayapura MLA says he won't contest polls for party chief's post, but someone from his group will

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Even as Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday announced in Bengaluru that election to the State BJP president's post would be held soon, dissenting party leaders Ramesh Jarkiholi and Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal stepped up their attack on incumbent party chief B.Y. Vijayendra in north Karnataka on the same day.

Speaking at an event at Ankalagi in Gokak in Belagavi district, Mr. Jarkiholi said, "I want to tell Mr. Vijayendra that he is just a *baccha* (child) yet. He is unfit to be the party president. He need not try to discipline me."

He was responding to Mr. Vijayendra asking him earlier to "watch his words" while talking about his father and BJP veteran B.S. Yediyurappa and not utter things that are disrespectful. He had also said that Mr. Jarkiholi was a "recent entrant to the party".

Tirade continues: Ramesh Jarkiholi, BJP MLA, speaking at a function to launch development works at Ankalagi near Gokak in Belagavi district on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Continuing his tirade, the Vijayapura MLA said, "I want to ask Mr. Vijayendra to quit and make way for someone else. We will not accept him as president... I have regard for Mr. Yediyurappa. He remains our leader, but not his son Mr. Vijayendra who is undeserving of his position."

On cycle rallies
In the same breath, he also said, "Mr. Yediyurappa keeps saying he has conducted cycle rallies to bring the BJP to power in the past. But then, you have amassed wealth that is several times more than your contribution to the party. Stop seeking credit for building the party." He urged Mr. Yediyurappa not to support his son, which would only lead to his downfall. However, he said he would accept the party high command's decision.

Meanwhile, Mr. Yatnal, speaking in Vijayapura, called Mr. Vijayendra a "collection master", who had made money during his father's chief ministership. He supported the idea of electing the new State unit president.

Mr. Yatnal said the party high command was aware of all the "misdeeds" of Mr. Vijayendra and that was why it was planning an election for the party president's post. To a query, he said he was not planning to contest the election. "But someone from our faction will contest... I want to request the party high command to ensure that Mr. Vijayendra does not interfere with the election process. Transparent elections should be conducted at every level – taluk, district, and State."

He said Mr. Vijayendra should not try to talk ill of Mr. Jarkiholi as his defection along with 16 other legislators had brought the party to power earlier. Mr. Yatnal also said Mr. Vijayendra should not target SC/ST leaders.

Meanwhile, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said it was time leaders stopped talking in the public belittling the incumbent State party unit chief, giving respect to the post.

'Centre has sanctioned additional 4.68 lakh houses for poor in State'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Minister for Rural Development, Agriculture, and Farmers' Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday said the Centre had sanctioned an additional 4.68 lakh houses for the people from the economically weaker sections in Karnataka.

Mr. Chouhan, who held a meeting with Karnataka's Rural Development, Revenue, and Agriculture Ministers, said the Centre sanctioned 2.57 lakh houses in September 2024 and released grants for it. Under the Border Area Development Scheme, ₹97 crore would be released for Karnataka, he said.

Mechanisation scheme
The Centre is ready to release additional grants for the mechanisation scheme in the Agriculture Department. The Centre has also sanctioned additional staff under the Agriculture Technology Management Agency scheme, said Mr. Chouhan.

Asked about Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's allegation about the unjust and unequal distribution of funds by the Centre, Mr. Chouhan said, "I have brought funds to Karnataka. There are two types of politics. One is the politics of blame game and the second is politics of development and public welfare. The BJP believes in the second one."

GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Race Course, Vadodara 390007
PBX : (0265) 2310582-86, Web : www.guvnl.com
CIN U40109GJ2004SGC045195

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) vide RfS No. **GUVNL / 250 MW / Wind (Phase IX) dated 18/01/2025** invites Tender for procurement of power through Competitive Bidding (followed by reverse auction) from 250 MW grid connected Wind Power Projects (Phase IX) to be set up anywhere in India with an additional 250 MW capacity under 'Green-shoe Option'.
For tender documents (RfS and Draft PPA) and further details please visit **www.guvnl.com** and **https://www.bharat-electronictender.com**. The last date of bid **submission is 11/02/2025.**
Date: 18/01/2025 **General Manager (RE)**

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the **Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS, Division No-2, Huvinahadagali, Vijayanagara(Dist).** Ph.No.08399-200001 e-mail: eeslid2hdl@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (ONLY THROUGH "*e-Procurement*" SYSTEM)

Reference: 1. This office Tender Notification No:1200/2024-25 Dated: 10.01.2025
2. This office Tender Notification No:1201/2022-23 Dated: 10.01.2025
3. This office Tender Notification No:1202/2022-23 Dated: 10.01.2025
4. This office Tender Notification No:1203/2022-23 Dated: 10.01.2025
5. This office Tender Notification No:1204/2022-23 Dated:10.01.2025
6. This office Tender Notification No:1205/2022-23 Dated: 10.01.2025

Tenders in Electronic mode are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS Division No.2, Huvinahadagali, Vijayanagara District from the eligible tenderer and who are fulfilled the terms and conditions mentioned in tender notifications from reference (1) to (6).

Sl. No	Indent Number	Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs) (Including GST)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	(KNNL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2476)	248.78	3.73
2.	(KNNL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2477)	196.08	2.94
3.	(KNNL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2481)	150.80	2.26
4.	(KNNL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2483)	188.23	2.82
5.	(KNNL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2482)	176.33	2.64
6.	(KNNL/202425/OW/WORK_INDENT2478)	32.99	0.66

The bidders can access the tender in "eproc.karnataka.gov.in" website from 17.01.2025 onwards and the last date of submission for the tenders is 27.01.2025 and date of opening of Technical Bid 29.01.2025. A Pre-bid meeting held on 21.01.2025 at 11.00 AM in office of the Office of Executive Engineer, KNNL,SLIS, Division No.2 HuvinaHadagali.
Further bidders are hereby by instructed to contact or visit the below mentioned office in working hours regarding Terms and Conditions of the tender and for furthermore information please contact e-procurement Helpdesk Phone Numbers: +91-80-46010000, +91-80-68948777 . Conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender shall have the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DIPR/Vijayanagar/2024-25/ KSMCA/RO No/476
Sd/-Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS Division No-2, Huvinahadagali, Vijayanagara (Dist)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public are hereby informed that our client are intends to purchase property bearing Survey No. 16 of Mavallipura Village, Hesaraghatta-2 Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru measuring 4 acres 25 guntas from its owner Sri. C.V. Thomas S/o C.T. Varghese by entering into an Sale Agreement and for getting execution of the sale deed favour of our client. If any person/s, authority, corporation, agency, firm or company having any right, title, claim, lien, mortgage, charge or assignment, agreement, documents or conveyance over the aforesaid property in any nature or manner, may lodge their objections/ claims with documentary proof within 10 days from this day of publication to the undersigned counsels in our office in writing. In absence of any such claims or objection with documentary proof within the above said period, then it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or objection with documentary proof or that if there are any claims and that they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived and our clients will proceed in purchasing the schedule property mentioned above.
K.V. Keshava, Advocate
No. 121/5&6 "OM Complex" Opposite Kamath Hotel, Avenue Road, Bengaluru - 02. M.Ph. No. 9448059626/9113245537

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

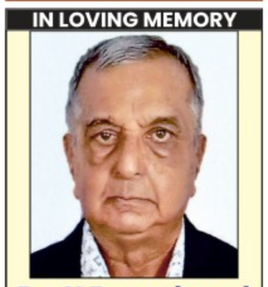
IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-41/3659/2024-25 **Date: 18.01.2025**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:
Name of the Works : (1) Providing Basic Electrical Infrastructure facilities to Sub Layout developed at Gowribidanuru 2nd Phase Industrial Area, Chikkaballapura District. **(2)** Providing Power Infrastructure to Obalapura Industrial Area, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.
The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **19.02.2025** upto **4.30 pm.**
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/4427/Zen/2024-25 **Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru**

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE
DEATH
IN LOVING MEMORY



Dr. K Ramchand
Wing Commander (Retd),
Founder Director, CABS, B'luru.
21.03.1942 - 17.01.2025
Deeply mourned by:
Mrs Meera Ramchand,
Mrs Srilatha and Mrs Ramya.

OBITUARY

AV PANCHAPAKESAN (a) KANNAN
(19.12.1929 - 18.1.2025)
Attained the eternal feet of Mahaperiyava on 18.1.2025 - 2.45pm at his residence Sai Sharan Apartments, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Gopalapuram, Chennai
Cremation on 19.1.2025
Deeply mourned by
Jayalakshmi, Karpagam, Subadra, Balajee & all near & dear
Ph:+91 9884017822/9791053213

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

INBRIEF

NTR was a great visionary and humanist, says A.P. CM Naidu

Paying tributes to N.T. Rama Rao (NTR) on the occasion of his death anniversary on Saturday, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said on X that the TDP founder and former Chief Minister was a great visionary and humanist. He observed that NTR had pioneered the reforms that were aimed at reducing poverty. NTR had introduced a slew of welfare schemes targeted at the people languishing in penury, and achieved impressive results, he said.

Tirumala stampede: senior official to visit shrine today

Union Home Ministry Additional Secretary Sanjeev Kumar Jindal is visiting Tirumala for two days beginning Sunday. The purpose is reportedly to inquire into the recent stampede, and the fire that broke out in a laddu distribution counter, both of which created a scare with regard to public safety. According to reliable sources, Mr. Jindal will meet TTD officials and discuss the likely cause of the incidents which landed the TTD in an awkward situation.

Three sentenced to RI for hunting down wild tusker

An Ernakulam court has sentenced three of the seven accused in the 2009 case involving the killing of an elephant calf in the Kuttampuzha forest range and the attempt to sell its tusks. They were each given four years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of ₹15,000. The case pertains to the gunning down of a six-year-old elephant in the Kathippara reserve forest within the Aanakkulam forest station limits in the Kuttampuzha forest range on July 8, 2009.

Cong., BJP corner LDF govt. over setting up of liquor unit

Both parties have raised the spectre of over-exploitation of groundwater and contamination of groundwater from industrial effluents in the perennially water-scarce Palakkad district

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM/ PALAKKAD

The Congress and BJP are poised to stir up a political storm over the Left Democratic Front's (LDF) contentious decision to allow a liquor major, Oasis Commercial Private Limited, to establish manufacturing units in Palakkad.

Both parties have raised the spectre of over-exploitation of groundwater and its contamination by industrial effluents in the water-scarce farming district. Notably, Palakkad is historically a hotbed of water conservation struggles, including the 2002-07 Plachimada agitation that led to the closure of the local Coca-Cola manufacturing unit.

V.D. Satheesan

The Congress and the BJP have accused the government of favouritism by 'excluding' other firms from the lucrative contract.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan, Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala, and BJP State president K. Surendran, alleged that the CBI had arrested the firm's promoters in connection with the Delhi liquor case.

Matters came to a head on Friday when Additional Chief Secretary, Taxes, A. Jayathilak promulgated an order permitting Oasis to establish an ethanol multi-feed distillation unit at an initial investment cost of an estimated ₹600 crore.

Excise Minister M.B. Rajesh told *The Hindu* that Opposition parties were stirring unnecessary controversy to earn political dividends.

People's anger is brewing against the proposed brewery and distillery in Elappully panchayat. People of the panchayat worry that the brewery will adversely affect their agriculture and water availability.

Elappully panchayat president Revathy Babu said she was not aware of the government move, and that the panchayat could not support anything that negatively affects the lives of the people.

Panchayat councillor Rameshan D., who is also district secretary of the INTUC, said the plant would aggravate the dearth of water in the panchayat.

'MUDA hasn't got any ED communication on attachment of immovable properties'

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) has not received any communication from the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on the attachment of immovable properties under investigation in the alleged scam relating to the controversial 50:50 scheme."We have not received any communication from ED on this," a MUDA official said.

It may be mentioned here that the ED, in a statement on Friday, had not only termed the allotment of 14 alternative sites to CM Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi in lieu of 3.16 acres of land acquired by MUDA as 'illegal', but also claimed that the agency had provisionally attached 142 immovable properties with a market value of over ₹300 crore, registered in the name of real estate business people and agents.

While the 14 sites allotted to Parvathi had been returned to the MUDA, sources said the probe into the alleged irregularities in the allotment of alternative sites under the 50:50 ratio scheme was under way by a Commission of Inquiry headed by retired High Court Judge P.N. Desai.

Meanwhile, activist Snehamayi Krishna, the complainant, told reporters that he was confident that not just 142 sites, but all the sites that had been allotted under the 50:50 ratio scheme would be confiscated by the authorities.

He said he would continue his struggle till all the sites allotted under the 50:50 schemes were returned to the MUDA.

Meanwhile, MP for Mysuru Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar has reiterated his demand for Mr. Siddaramaiah's resignation from the post of Chief Minister in the wake of the ED's statement.

He said Mr. Siddaramaiah should immediately step down and facilitate a probe by an agency that does not come under his authority and influence. A decision on him returning to the post or otherwise can be taken after the probe concludes and on the basis of the findings.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Dense fog conditions likely in isolated pockets of Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	27.5	13.4	Kozhikode	—	34.5	23.8
Ahmedabad	—	29.8	16.0	Kurnool	—	31.0	19.4
Aizawl	—	28.1	10.5	Lucknow	—	19.1	10.3
Allahabad	—	21.8	8.8	Madurai	—	30.0	22.5
Bengaluru	—	27.4	16.9	Mangaluru	—	32.0	22.4
Bhopal	—	25.6	10.5	Mumbai	—	35.1	18.7
Bhubaneswar	—	27.8	12.3	Mysuru	—	29.0	17.0
Chandigarh	—	16.3	8.0	New Delhi	—	20.7	10.2
Chennai	—	28.1	23.2	Patna	—	23.3	12.8
Coimbatore	—	28.4	19.2	Port Blair	—	30.5	24.9
Dehradun	—	20.6	9.2	Puducherry	—	29.0	21.5
Gangtok	—	15.5	6.2	Pune	—	31.5	17.8
Goa	—	33.0	23.0	Raipur	—	29.8	15.4
Guwahati	—	27.8	14.4	Ranchi	—	25.0	10.4
Hubballi	—	28.0	17.0	Shillong	—	17.6	7.6
Hyderabad	—	28.2	18.8	Shimla	—	18.4	6.4
Imphal	—	24.1	8.1	Srinagar	—	7.7	-0.9
Jaipur	—	19.8	8.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.1	23.4
Kochi	—	31.8	23.6	Tiruchi	2	26.7	22.0
Kohima	—	20.0	10.1	Vijayawada	—	29.4	19.4
Kolkata	—	25.6	15.2	Visakhapatnam	—	29.2	20.3

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.12	..62	.17	...250	...216	
Bengaluru	.18	..64	.32	...136	...108	
Chennai	...6	...5	.39	...133	...108	
Delhi	.22	..57	105	...342	...227	
Hyderabad	...6	115	.22	...167	...155	
Kolkata	.16	..70	.11	...201	...142	
Lucknow	...8	..48	.53	...267	...189	
Mumbai	.40	166	.30	...120	...122	
Pune	..—	219	.66	...150	...113	
Visakhapatnam	...8	..29	.15	...114	...111	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Talcher, Odisha recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 317 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 26

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client negotiating to purchase all that property described in the Schedule herein from Mr. Rajesh Kumar (Owner of Item No.I), and Mr. Kamalesh K (Owner of Item No.II) who claim to be the owners of the Schedule Property.Any person or persons ascertaining any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof and in any manner whatsoever against the Schedule Property based on the documents pertaining to the Schedule Property or objecting for the proposed development may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within 7 (Seven) days from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client/s and my client/s will proceed to purchase the below mentioned property as if there are no objections/claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO.I:
All that piece and parcel of the residential Northern Portion of the Property bearing Site No.1, measuring East to West on Northern Side 63 Feet, on Southern Side 55 ½ Feet and North to South Eastern Side 25 Feet on Western Side 24 Feet totally measuring 1452 Sq. Feet, situated at Yellukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, presently bearing Khatha No.1789/243/16/9A/1 and PID No.7041152276 in the records of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and bounded as follows:
East by :Road;
West by :Property No.2;
North by :Private Property;
South by :Remaining Southern Portion of the same Property belongs to Sri. Kamalesh K

ITEM NO.II:
All that piece and parcel of the residential Southern Portion of the Property bearing Site No.1, measuring East to West on Northern Side 56 Feet, on Southern Side 45 Feet and North to South Eastern Side 38 Feet, and on Western Side 36 Feet totally measuring 1868 ½ Sq. Feet, situated at Yellukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, presently bearing KhathaNo.1789/243/16/9A/1 and PID No.7041152276 in the records of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and bounded as follows:
East by :Road;
West by :Property No.2;
North by :Remaining Portion of the same Property belong to Sri. Rajesh Kumar;
South by :Galli.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810, 'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor,
27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102. Phone: 9902026199 and 8088731020; Email:info@lexitus.com

ಮೈಸೂರು ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
ಇರ್ವಿನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು-570 001
Phone:+91-0821-2520512 (Off.), 2520803 (Fax)
Website: www.mmcri/karnataka.gov.in
E-mail: mmcrimysore@yahoo.com
No. Sup/CR/271/2024-25 Dated: 13.01.2025

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Term Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for providing of various health services on services contract to the K.R. Hospital, Cheluvamba Hospital and P.K.T.B. & C.D. Hospitals of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru. The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website: https://kppp.kamataka.gov.in from 15.01.2025 and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is 29.01.2025 upto 5.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with E.M.D. will be rejected. If, the last date for submission of Tender treated as holiday, the next working day will be considered as last date. No Notification in this regard will be announced.

Sd/-Director and Dean,
Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru

DIPR/DD-MYS/1120/KSMCA/762/2024-25

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Traffic Commercial Department, 2nd Floor, Shantinagar TTMC, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027.
No.: BMTC/CO/TR/COM/4137/2024-25 Date: 17.01.205

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 30/2024-25
(e-Procurement Platform)

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites offers/bids from the interested Agency/company on monthly license fee basis for **DIGITAL BUS INFORMATION DISPLAY (DBID)** in the bus stands through e-procurement platform.

Date of Pre-Bid meeting: **21.01.2025 at 11:00hrs. Place**: Mini meeting Hall 4th Floor, Central Offices, BMTC, Shanthinagar. Last date & time for submission of bids is on **27.01.2025 up to 17:00hrs.** Opening of Technical bids is on **29.01.2025 at 11:30hrs.** Opening of Financial bids is on: **To be intimated latter.**

For further details on license fees, EMD & other conditions log on to: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Contact no: 080-46010000 or 7760991222 & 7760997519 E-mail: ctmc@mybmtc.com.

Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender inviting Authority)

Karnataka Public works Department.
Tumkur Division, Karnataka Telephone: 0816-2272479,
No;EE/KPWD/Tmk/AE.1/T.No.31/2024-25 Dt: 13.01.2025

Invitation For Tenders (IFT) KW-4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Government of Karnataka tenders are invited in Two cover system for Class-2 & above Contractors registered in PWD for 02 works under 5054 MDR Improvements Head of account in the jurisidiction of Tumkur Division through KPPP-Portal(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). The dates are published as below. (Maximum amount Put to Tender Rs.561.31 Lakhs, Minimum amount Put to Tender Rs.491.39 Lakhs, Maximum EMD Amt Rs.841972/- & Minimum EMD Amt Rs.737082/-)

1. Last date for tender information enqueries : 13-02-2025 : 17.30, 2. Last date for submission of tender : 14-02-2025 : 17.00, 3. Date of opening the Technical bid: 15-02-2025 : 17.15. 4. Date of opening the Financial bid: 17-02-2025 : 11.00. Note: Turnover Certificate without UDI Number will not be considered.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PWD DIVISION, TUMKUR.
DIPR/TUM/567/KSMCA/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು
Email: eerdwsd.dk@gmail.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 0824- 2951583

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇ.ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ.ಸನೈ:ವಿ:ಮಂ: ದಿ:- 18.01.2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್: ಎಇ-1:2024-25/2043

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರಿಂದ ಅರ್ಹ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರಿಂದ Goods Tender document ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ವಿವರವು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ:

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ	EMD ಮೊತ್ತ
1	Construction of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant at Naringana, Bantwal Taluk - 2ನೇ ಕರೆ	ರೂ. 94.86,000.00	ರೂ. 1,89,000.00
2	ಜೋಕಟ್ಟೆ ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಶೇಡಿಗುರಿ ಜಿಎಲ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಆರ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ	ರೂ. 14,00,000.00	ರೂ. 35,000.00
3	ಜೋಕಟ್ಟೆ ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ 62ನೇ ತೋಕೂರು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಗುಡ್ಡೆ ಬಳಿ ಹೊಸ ಓವರ್ ಹೆಡ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ	ರೂ. 27,00,000.00	ರೂ.54,000.00
4	Arranging P/S to 7.5HP water supply installation at NAILA Noojibalthila GP Renjilady village in Kadaba section of Kadaba Subdivision - 3ನೇ ಕರೆ	ರೂ. 6,52,434.00	ರೂ.16,000.00
5	Estimate for arranging p/s 7.5HP LT6 of AEE RDWSD at Boliyala in Palthadi Village O&M Kumbra Section Rural Subdivision Puttur. - 3ನೇ ಕರೆ	ರೂ. 11,57,607.00	ರೂ.29,000.00

ಸದ್ರಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ನಿರ್ಭಂದನೆಗಳು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲೇ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಟಡ್ಡಿಟಟಬಧ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.01.2025 ರಿಂದ 03.02.2025.
2. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03.02.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.
3. ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04.02.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0824-2951583ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸ ಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು.
DIPR / MNG / 1212 / MPL / 24-25

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Tumkur
NO.26/EE/RDWS&SD/TMK/JJM/AE-1&2&3&4/5614/2024-25 Date: 16.01.2025

Short Term Tender Notification

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Tumkur has Invites request for proposal tenders from the eligible bidders for the Two Cover work detailed in the table below. Tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTPP act shall be followed. The tenders are Required to submit through Karnataka Public Procurement mode through portal. (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/) from Class-II & above PWD Registered Contractors who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following JJM Works of Tumkur, Tiptur, Turuvekere, Madhugiri and Pavagada Taluk of Tumkur Dist. As per the schedule given below. (Minimum Tender Amount Rs.100.35 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.2,00,000/- and Maximum Tender Amount Rs.394.67 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.5,92,100/-)

Particulars & Details: 1. Last date of submit bids on Karnataka Public Procurement portal **04.02.2025** Upto 17.00 Hours. 2. Technical Opening Bids : Date: **27.01.2025** at 11.00 AM Venue, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division Tumkur. 3. Technical Opening of Bids **05.02.2025** at 17.30 PM onwards. 4. Financial Opening of Bids **10.02.2025** at 11.00 A M onwards.

For further particulars/details may avail from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days and may visit the website (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/)

Sd/- Executve Engineer,
RDW & S Division, Tumkur.
DIPR/TUM/568/KSMCA/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL.
Phone No: 08539 – 222318 email : eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:RD&BD:KW- 1, 2, 3, 4:2024-25: 3482 Date:17-01-2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-4 on on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : KKRDB Mega-Macro Other-General/2022-23, Micro Social SDP/2022-23, Micro Institutional-General/2023-24 & 2024-25, Micro-Infrasture-General/2024-25, Macro Institutional General/2024-25 & Micro Social-SDP/2022-23, Micro Social Genral/2024-25, Micro Infrastructure General/2024-25, Micro Institutional-General/2024-25, 5054-SH Improvement/2024-25, 5054-MDR Improvements/2024-25, KKRDB Macro-Infrastructure-General/2024-25, KKRDB Micro Infrastructure-SCP/2024-25 & KKRDB Macro, KKRDB Micro Infrastructure & KKRDB Micro Infrastructure/2024-25, 2059-Maintenance of Department Buildings & 2216-Maintenance of Quarters/2024-25. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539 – 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 26 Works **(Work Indent No: 16971, 16900, 16972, 16970, 16969, 16937, 16968, 16952, 17292, 17079, 17291, 17325, 17824, 17823, 18188, 17564, 17574, 17476, 17477, 17624, 17479, 17478, 17855, 17626, 17637 & 17627).** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **29-01-2025 Time 16.00,** Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **30-01-2025 Time 16.30.** Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **03-02-2025 Time 11.00.** Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount Rs. 1.50 Lakhs & Rs. 900.00 Lakhs respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, for reservation of category & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.

Sd/- EE PWD Division,Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/679/DeshpandePublicity/2024-25

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tenders from the eligible pre qualified contractors & willing to pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned works.

Last date for submission of bid: 17.02.2025 up to 4 PM

Sl.No.	Name of the work
1	Construction of "Prajasoudha" sirwara Taluk Adalitha Kendra at Sirwara Taluk, Raichur District. **Work Indent No:** Tender Reference No. KHB/2024-25/BD/work_indent 499 & IFT No.252/2024-25 Date: 17.01.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.6,52,91,683/-
2	Construction of "Prajasoudha" Kushalnagara Taluk Adalitha Kendra at Kushalnagara Taluk, Kodagu District. **Work Indent No:** Tender Reference No. KHB/2024-25/BD/work_indent 500 & IFT No.261/2024-25 Date: 17.01.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.6,52,05,442/-
3	Construction of "Prajasoudha" Alnavar Taluk Adalitha Kendra at Alnavar Taluk, Dharwad District. **Work Indent No:** Tender Reference No. KHB/2024-25/BD/work_indent 501 & IFT No.269/2024-25 Date: 17.01.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.6,49,96,325/-

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/4414/AKAR/2024-25

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

From Page One

Israel-Gaza ceasefire to begin today, officials say

The pause in 15 months of war is a step toward ending the deadliest, most destructive fighting ever between Israel and the Hamas militant group – and comes more than a year after the only other ceasefire achieved.

The first phase of the ceasefire will last 42 days, and negotiations on the far more difficult second phase are meant to begin just over two weeks in. After those six weeks, Israel's security Cabinet will decide how to proceed.

Lit for Life begins with an ode to reading

On the aim and spirit behind Lit for Life, Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson of The Hindu Group and festival chair and founder, said the festival was about celebrating words, ideas and creativity, carrying with it the honest and fearless traditions of *The Hindu* and with a firm commitment to freedom of expression. "We have always strived to be a wide and inclusive platform for artists, writers, thinkers and performers to share their ideas and creative vision with all those who value literature," she said, adding that the biggest measure of the success of the festival was that people attend it, enjoy it, and say they have been enriched.

Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu*, said that literature was journalism that stays with us forever. "This year, the festival is back as Lit for Life, a reiteration of literature's centrality in human life, its role as an agent of change in the world, its mission as a torchbearer, very much like journalism, in these dark times," he pointed out.

L.V. Navaneeth, CEO, The Hindu Group, said that Lit for Life was more than just a two-day event: engaging and interactive initiatives had been organised prior to the festival as well for the community, including a mobile library, story-telling workshops and literary walks.

R.G. Kar judgment evokes mixed response in Kolkata

Sanjay Roy, the prime accused in the case, was pronounced guilty; parents of the deceased welcome the verdict, asking for the highest order of punishment, say the probe must continue

Moyurie Som
Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

The pronouncement of the judgment in a case of rape and murder of a doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata on Saturday evoked a mixed response in social and political circles.

A large crowd had gathered outside the Sealdah court, and protests erupted when Additional District and Sessions Judge Anirban Das pronounced Sanjay Roy, the prime accused, guilty of the rape and murder.

Representatives of the West Bengal Junior Doctors Front took out a rally from Sealdah to Moulali demanding that the others who were held responsible for the crime be punished too. There is a widespread perception among people, especially doctors and parents, that the crime could not be a work of just one person.

Police protection in front of the Sealdah court on the day of judgment of the R.G. Kar rape and murder case. DEBASISH BHADURI

'Probe should continue'

Debasish Haldar, a protesting junior doctor, said, "Until everyone who is directly or indirectly related to this crime is brought to justice, we will not rest. If the government, court, or police think that they have given the ultimate judgment and we will stop fighting, then they are wrong."

Welcoming the verdict, the parents of the doctor, who were present in the court, said that the judgement does not mean that the investigation in the case will be over.

"We respect the judgement and ask for the highest order of punishment for the accused. But we believe the investigation will go on and more culprits will be caught," they said. The court will pronounce the term of punishment on Monday.

The pronouncement by the court marks an important milestone in the case as protests demanding justice for the victim had erupted across West Bengal since August 2024. Members of the medical community and civil society staged the protests.

The Trinamool Congress leadership said that the conviction proved that Kolkata Police conducted a proper investigation in the case.

"Sanjay Roy being convicted of the rape and murder that took place at R.G. Kar [Medical College Hospital] proves that Kolkata Police had arrested the right person within 24 hours of the incident. Now, those who had harped on the call for a CBI investigation have found that finally the arrest by the Kolkata Police was correct," party leader Kunal Ghosh said.

The case was handed over to the CBI by the Calcutta High Court which has framed charges against only Sanjay Roy. The family members of the victim had raised questions on the role of the police, and alleged that the police tried to hush up the case.

Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari expressed doubts as to how the crime could have been committed by just one person. "Multiple people are involved. We hope the CBI and higher judiciary will look into the matter carefully," the BJP leader said, adding that he was hopeful that Supreme Court will take proper action.

'Cancer of terrorism is consuming body politic of Pakistan'

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI

Pakistan's support of cross-border terrorism is like a cancer, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Saturday.

"Pakistan remains the exception in our neighbourhood in view of its support for cross-border terrorism, and that cancer is now consuming its own body politic. Obviously, the entire sub-continent has a shared interest in Pakistan abjuring that approach." Mr. Jaishakar said, while delivering the 19th Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Lecture.

S. Jaishankar

India also needs to prepare itself for China's growing capabilities, the Minister said. "Right now, the relationship is trying to disentangle itself from the complications arising from the post-2020 border situation. Even as that is being addressed, more thought needs to be given to the longer-term evolution of ties," he said.

Nations on the rise

India faces a particular challenge in establishing an equilibrium with China, Mr. Jaishankar said. "As immediate neighbours and the only two societies with over a billion people, their dynamic could never have been easy. But it has been further sharpened by a boundary dispute, by some baggage of history and by differing socio-political systems. Misreadings by past policymakers, whether driven by idealism or absence of realpolitik, has helped neither cooperation nor competition with China. That has clearly changed in the last decade," he said.

Highlighting India's friendly relationship with Sri Lanka, he said, "India's challenge has been to rebuild the neighbourhood in the aftermath of the Partition. It is now doing so through a generous and non-reciprocal approach, funding and supporting energy, rail and road connectivity, expanding trade and investment and intensifying exchanges and contacts."

18 naxals killed in Bijapur operation, clarifies police

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh police on Saturday said that 18 Naxals – not 12, as initially announced – were killed in the South Bastar operation earlier this week, attributing the update to a press release in which the Maoists themselves conceded losing more members.

Earlier, 12 bodies were recovered following the operation in the forests of Tumrel, Sigampalli, Pujarikanker, and Malempenta in the border areas of the Pamed, Usur, and Basaguda police jurisdictions in Bijapur district. Security forces had targeted the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army Battalion No. 01 and CRC (Central Regional Committee), considered to be among the strongest military formations in the Maoist hierarchy.

EPFO to let employees correct personal details using Aadhaar number

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

In a significant reform that would ease the burden on subscribers, the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has simplified the process of joint declaration on the EPFO portal by allowing employees to self-correct errors in their personal details.

These include name, date of birth, gender, nationality, parent's name, marital status, spouse name, date of joining and date of leaving.

The corrections can be done without any verification by the employer or approval by the EPFO, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said Saturday.

Dr. Mandaviya said the EPF members who have linked their Universal Account Number with their Aadhaar, can file their transfer claims online using the one-time password generated using Aadhaar. For this too, the intervention of employer is not needed from now. Around 27% of the grievances received at the EPFO are on member profile and Know Your Customer issues.

Mansukh Mandaviya

"The process put huge workload on employer and the EPFO even where the employee had already authenticated his identity through Aadhaar KYC process," he said.

The complaints over mistakes committed by employers in recording father/spouse name, marital status, nationality and service details during the registration process or later were plenty and to correct these errors, the employee had to make a request online with supporting documents.

"Now, employee can self-correct most common errors in his personal details," he said. If the UAN was issued prior to September 1, 2017, any correction can be done by the employer without EPFO approval. The reforms are part of the EPFO's system updating process termed EPFO 2.0. The EPFO's system will be on a par with the banking system once EPFO 3.0 is implemented, he said.

Neutral third party should broker Manipur peace, say police recruits

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

At the first-ever integration training organised by the Assam Rifles for the Manipur Police last month, recruits from all three communities – Meitei, Kuki-Zo and Naga – concurred that peace in the ethnic violence-affected State should be brokered by a "neutral third party", a senior government official told *The Hindu*.

Most recruits were "disillusioned with the inability of their leaders to find a solution to the issue" and stressed on a larger role by the Central government to tackle the crisis.

The integration training was organised in the first week of December for around 1,900 select police officials in Manipur on the directions of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The need for an integration programme was discussed first at a meeting on June 17, 2024, when Mr. Shah reviewed the security situation in Manipur. One of the issues discussed at the meet was polarisation of the police on ethnic lines.

Big picture: Recruits at integration training stress on a larger role by the Central government to tackle the crisis. PTI

The meeting highlighted that despite the ongoing tensions, personnel from both the communities who are deployed in the Assam Rifles and the Army existed in harmony. As many as 1,300 recruits from the Meitei community, 350 Nagas and 260 members from the Kuki-Zo community were identified for the integration programme.

Fake news

The recruits who were already undergoing training at the Lachit Borphukan Police Training Centre is Assam for a year were involved in the programme. The training focussed on team building, acknowledging diversity, pride of being "a Manipuri and an Indian", understanding fake news and propaganda, among others.

At least 450 recruits volunteered to fill a feedback form. "Ninety-five per cent of the recruits responded that negotiations are a must and communities need to accommodate each other. Seventy per cent recruits disagreed with the weaponisation of youth and society, while 80% recruits strongly agreed that fake news is a major cause of tension among communities," the official said.

The official added that 95% of recruits agreed with the concept of truth and reconciliation as a primary step to usher in sustainable peace and 75% of recruits disagreed with the deployment of Central forces for restoration of peace. Another 75% agreed that "media has not adequately showcased the issues of Manipur at the national level."

SUDOKU

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1		8				9		2
9	6	2					3	
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				2	1		8	
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No.SS6404 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	8	9	1	3	4	5	2	6
2	4	5	6	9	7	3	1	8
3	6	1	8	2	5	4	7	9
6	5	3	2	7	1	8	9	4
8	9	7	5	4	6	1	3	2
1	2	4	9	8	3	7	6	5
9	3	2	7	5	8	6	4	1
4	1	8	3	6	2	9	5	7
5	7	6	4	1	9	2	8	3

In a first, doctors use tele-robotic system to do two heart surgeries, over a distance of 286 km

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Combining cutting-edge technology with medical innovation, doctors used India's first indigenous surgical tele-robotic system to successfully conduct two complex heart surgeries over a distance of 286 kilometres - the longest, physical separation so far achieved in India between a patient and the operating surgeon.

The surgical-robotic system, SSI Mantra, developed by the medical technology company, SSI Ltd, is the first-of-its-kind system in India. It conducted two surgeries on January 9 and 10 on two men, aged 59 and 56, with a team stationed at the SSI's robotics control in Gurugram and another at the Manipal Hospital in Jaipur.

Dr. Lalitaditya Malik and his team after the two successful heart surgeries. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The first procedure was an internal mammary artery harvesting, which involves removing the artery for a coronary artery bypass grafting. The second was a total endoscopic coronary artery bypass, which is considered a complex cardiac surgery as the surgeon has to work on the artery while the heart is still beating.

Speaking to *The Hindu* about the surgeries, Dr. Lalitaditya Malik, cardiothoracic vascular surgery consultant at the Manipal Hospital in Jaipur, said his team of 10 medical staff and five from an Information Technology support team did mock drills for these operations for nearly a week every day before the actual procedures.

Better precision

"Latency time, ensuring good connectivity, anticipating and being prepared for medical and technical problems are the challenges associated with the procedure. The advantages include reduced time of operation, better precision, minimal operation trauma to the body in terms of incision, blood loss, recovery time and chances of infection," he said.

The surgeries were successful because the underlying technology enabled a latency of 35-40 milliseconds (one-20th of a second), meaning that actions executed in Gurugram were almost instantaneously transmitted to the robotic surgical instruments in Jaipur. The patients have been discharged.

The surgeon involved, Sudhir Srivastava, founder of SS Innovations, and who specialises in robotic cardiac surgery, told *The Hindu* that MantraSync was a proprietary tele-surgical network module specifically designed to work seamlessly with the SSI Mantra surgical-robot system.

"The technology has been approved by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation in India under Class B and Class C surgical devices. These approvals affirm the safety, efficacy, and regulatory compliance of the system for use in hospitals across India," said Dr. Srivastava.

Saif Ali Khan knife attack case suspect detained

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

A 30-year-old man was detained in Chhattisgarh by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in connection with the knife attack on actor Saif Ali Khan earlier this week. Identified as Akash Kanojiya, the Mumbai resident was found travelling on a train that was stopped by the RPF at the Durg Railway Station, a police officer said.

Sanjeev Kumar Sinha, an Inspector with the RPF, said they had acted on a tip-off from the Mumbai Police, leading to a search of the Jnaneshwari Express, which runs from Mumbai's Lokmanya Tilak Terminus to Kolkata's Shalimar station.

Kejriwal's car attacked by BJP workers, alleges AAP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday released a video of a group of people showing black flags and a stone being thrown at a car in which party chief Arvind Kejriwal was travelling in New Delhi.

The party alleged that it was an assault by the BJP's goons, as they fear an imminent loss in the February 5 Delhi election.

In the video, some men were also seen obstructing his path and using black mufflers to condemn Mr. Kejriwal.

Sharing the same video, Mr. Kejriwal's opponent from New Delhi seat and BJP leader, Parvesh Sahib Singh, alleged people were trying to ask questions to Mr. Kejriwal and to avoid them he sped away in his vehicle hitting two BJP volunteers.

They have been admitted to a government hospital, he said.

The AAP chief has Z-plus category security given by the Centre.

"The BJP is a party of frustrated cowards! Lacking the courage to fight Arvind Kejriwal ji's work, they resorted to attacking him through their goons," senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia said in a tweet.

Cong. angling for kingmaker role after election in capital

The party narrows down its focus to 20 of the 70 Assembly seats in Delhi; its campaign this time is a very candidate-centric one; it is also banking on the return of minority, Dalit voters to its camp

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Critical fight: The Congress has picked out 20 seats in New Delhi where it has a fair chance of giving a strong fight. Here, candidate Sandeep Dikshit addresses a press conference on Saturday. ANI

Fighting for survival in Delhi, the Congress has narrowed down its focus to 20 seats and is running a candidate-centric campaign in the February 5 Delhi Assembly election. The party wants to repeat its 2013 performance, when after being unseated from the throne and pushed to the third position in the Assembly tally, the Congress still held the key to power.

Delhi will vote on February 5 to elect 70 legislators. In 2013, after 15 years of an unbroken stint, the Congress found itself with just eight legislators and 24.6% of the vote share. Since then, the party has been on a downward spiral in the national capital. For two consecutive Assembly elections – 2015 and 2020 – the Congress has not won a single seat.

Chances for 2025

In the 2025 election, hoping to break the dry spell, according to senior party leaders, the Congress has picked out 20 seats where it has a fair chance of giving a strong fight for optimum use of its resources. Second, it is banking on the return of minority and Dalit voters to its camp.

"AAP remained a mute spectator during Delhi riots after winning by a huge margin. The present Chief Minister, Atishi, went out of her way to blame Tablighi Jamaat for the spread of COVID. These are the issues that minority voters cannot forget easily," a senior Congress leader said.

The three consecutive defeats have had a debilitating impact on the party's organisational structure and the party knowing full well of its depleted strength and the fact that the voters do not see them having any real shot at power, is leaning more on the candidates. "We have carefully selected candidates, persons who with their social capital can pull through this battle," the senior leader added.

It has also fielded its sitting and former Chief Ministers to present the "Congress model" of governance. So far, the party has already fielded former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar have also made an appearance.

With these strategies in place for the Congress the best case scenario is a repeat of 2013, the milestone election which was the beginning of its downslide. But for the Congress even that would be a huge leap. In 2013, the Congress won 24.6% votes which came down to 4% in 2020 polls.

"We are fighting to win this election. Rest assured, we will emerge as the king makers," a leader said.

Not in favour of a post-poll alliance with AAP: Maken

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ajay Maken

Senior Congress leader Ajay Maken has ruled out any post-poll alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) – its ally in the INDIA bloc – in case of a fractured verdict in the Delhi Assembly election scheduled for February 5.

Addressing a press conference on Saturday at the Congress's new headquarters, Indira Bhavan, Mr. Maken said, "It is my personal view that there should be no alliance with the AAP."

Mr. Maken, who has been a strident critique of the AAP, recently labelled AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal "anti-national". His remarks led to a backlash from the INDIA bloc allies, but Mr. Maken maintained that it was his "personal view" and he asserted that he stood by his words.

"I also feel that there should not have been any [Congress] support to the AAP in 2013 and neither any alliance for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," the All India Congress Committee (AICC) treasurer said.

On whether the Congress would still go with the AAP, he said, "I feel that Kejriwal's success in Delhi helps the BJP. To fight the BJP, it is important to have a strong Congress at the national level."

Mr. Maken said if a national party like the Congress was not strong at the national level, it was difficult to fight the BJP.

Noting Delhi's "special significance", Mr. Maken said it was known that whichever party won the Lok Sabha seats in the capital went on to form its government at the Centre. "The AAP has failed to stall the BJP in Delhi," he said.

Mr. Maken said that both in Haryana and Delhi, the Congress wanted to have an alliance with the AAP, but soon after his release from jail, Mr. Kejriwal announced that the AAP would contest all 90 Assembly seats. In Haryana too, he said, the AAP went ahead to contest solo despite the advanced stage of discussion between the two parties.

SVAMITVA scheme: PM hands out 65 lakh cards

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

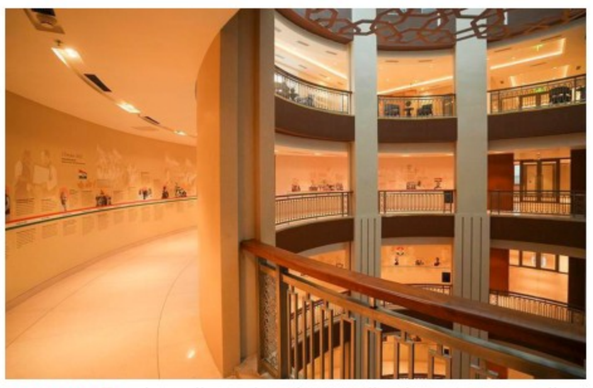
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday distributed more than 65 lakh property cards to rural families in more than 50,000 villages across 12 States and Union Territories under the Centre's SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) scheme, at an event on Saturday. He stressed rural digitisation was now "furthering rural empowerment by leveraging the power of technology and good governance".

The SVAMITVA scheme was launched in 2020 to provide 'Record of Rights' to families owning houses in inhabited areas in villages by surveying through a latest drone technology. The government had said this was to enhance rural India's economic progress as it would facilitate monetisation of properties and enable institutional credit through bank loans; reduce property-related disputes; facilitate better assessment of properties and property tax in rural areas and allow comprehensive village-level planning.

Events are also being organised in more than 230 districts for physical distribution of property cards.

Inside Indira Bhavan, Cong. retains connect with the past through an array of photographs

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI


Legacy walls: The walls inside Indira Gandhi Bhavan in New Delhi reflect the party's journey since 1885, in 246 rare photographs. PTI

Indira Bhavan, the new Congress headquarters in Delhi, strives to balance the past and the present. Amid Ikea furniture and energy-efficient fittings, the building recollects the party's history in 246 rare photographs, some of them a painful reminder of leaders who left after publicly decrying the Congress and its leadership.

Three days after inaugurating the new premises, the party threw it open to the media for a tour. The building has been in the making for 18 years. Land was allotted to the party in November 2007. The foundation stone was laid in 2009, and the final 'all clear' certificate from the relevant authorities was secured only on January 14 this year.

Painted in shades of cream and brown, the building is spread over a total area of 2,100 square metres, and has its own auditorium, with 276 seats. There are 134 trees, 8,675 plants, and 264 works of art and paintings. Mr. Maken, party treasurer said that the building had been constructed at a cost of ₹200-₹225 crore, much of it with contributions by its regular workers.

The cafeteria features paintings by Nandalal Bose, made on the request of Mahatma Gandhi for the Haripura Congress session of 1938. There are pictures of the meetings of the Planning Commission from 1985, with former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi seen sitting along with three of the then future Prime Ministers – Narasimha Rao, V.P. Singh, and Manmohan Singh; and one future President of India, K.R. Narayanan.

Narasimha Rao, whose images found no space in the old party headquarters at 24 Akbar Road, has been given a pride of place in the new building.

But perhaps the most arresting pictures are the ones with the party's senior leaders, who defected to other parties looking for a brighter political future. One such on the ground floor is that of Sonia Gandhi leading a march accompanied by Congress leaders, including Suresh Pachouri, Rita Bahuguna Joshi, and P. Sudhakar Reddy, all now with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The former Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad, who quit the party after launching a stinging attack on Mr. Rahul Gandhi's leadership, makes an occasional appearance on the walls. Another interesting photograph is that of Ms. Sonia Gandhi and former party president Sitaram Kesari at a campaign rally in Rohtak in January 1998.

A few months later, Kesari was forced out and Ms. Gandhi took over as the party president.

Lalu Prasad hands over RJD's reins to son Tejashwi

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Tejashwi Yadav

In the run-up to the Assembly election in Bihar, the baton has been officially handed to Tejashwi Yadav to lead the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). Mr. Yadav's stature increased in the party with the passing of a resolution that equals his power to that of the RJD's national president, a position occupied by his father and party supremo, Lalu Prasad.

The resolution was passed on Saturday during the RJD's national executive committee meeting in Patna, where senior leaders of the party, including MPs, MLAs and MLCs, were present along with Mr. Prasad, his wife Rabri Devi, and oldest daughter Misa Bharti.

The resolution allows Mr. Yadav, who has already been calling the shots in the party, decide on amendments to the party's ticket and symbol along with Mr. Prasad.

Mr. Yadav is currently the Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Legislative Assembly. He served as the Deputy Chief Minister when the RJD formed the government with the Janata Dal (United) in 2015 and 2022.

"I thank all the leaders of the party, including Lalu-*ji*, for showing trust in me and giving me such a big responsibility. I will discharge my duty with honesty in the upcoming Assembly election in Bihar. The RJD-led grand alliance will surely form the government in the State," Mr. Yadav said in an interaction with the media after the meeting.

Party sources said the decision had been taken keeping in mind Mr. Prasad's declining health. The veteran politician has not been keeping well for some years. He underwent a cardiac surgery in 2014 and a kidney transplant in 2022.

Congress will remove quota cap if elected to power, says Rahul

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Rahul Gandhi

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, on his first visit to Bihar after becoming the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, on Saturday slammed the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Bharatiya Janata Party for being "anti-Constitution", and said 20-25 billionaires own the wealth of the country.

The 50% reservation barrier would be removed and caste census conducted across the country when the Congress returns to power at the Centre, Mr. Gandhi said while addressing Congress functionaries and workers at the party's State headquarters in Patna, the Sadaqat Ashram.

New caste census

While slamming the Bihar government led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Mr. Gandhi said, "The caste survey done by the Bihar government [released in 2023] was fake and when our government returns to power, a caste census will be held across the country to know the exact population of castes and their representation in governance".

Earlier, he addressed the 'Samvidhan Suraksha Sammelan' (Save Constitution Conclave) organised by social organisations at the Bapu Sabhagar auditorium in the city.

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The last date for submission of the **Technical Bid and Financial Bid (online only) is 17/02/2025 up to 6:00 pm. and Technical Bid (physical only) is 19/02/2025 up to 3:00 pm.**
Managing Director

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Name of work: Expression of interest (EOI) for DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL CUM RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX AT KADAVANTHRA, KOCHI.
EOI document will be available on www.etenders.kerala.gov.in from 14/01/2025 onwards.
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Office of Additional Chief Engineer PHED, Region Bharatpur
Telephone No 05644-221500, Email: rj_acebha@nic.in
Notice Inviting Bid No. 25 to 27/2024-25
Online bids for NIT No. 25 to 27/2024-25 (03 work), Costing Rs. 590.00 Lacs is invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan from eligible enlisted in appropriate class contractors of PHED, Rajasthan and meeting eligibility criteria. Contractors enlisted with other departments of Government of Rajasthan and enlisted with CPWD/ Postal/Telecom/Railways/MES/other State Government/ Central Government undertakings/organization in class equivalent to "A/AA" class of Rajasthan (as applicable) and meeting prescribed eligibility criteria may also apply. Details of this Bid notification and pre-qualification criteria can also be seen in NIB exhibited on website www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. Bids are to be submitted online electronic format on web site http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from 13-01-2025 to 05-02-2025 (6PM) & Bids are to be opened at 11.00 AM on 06.02.2025.
NIB Code PHE242543878
UBN No.:
1. PHE2425WSOB08210
2. PHE2425WSOB08211
3. PHE2425WSOB08212
DIPR/C/641/2025
(Mohan Lal Meena)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Region Bharatpur

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e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
e-Tenders are invited for supply of 1)25,00,000 numbers of Bio Compostable Laddu Carry Covers through e-tenders to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams. For Tender Notice and tender details log on to the the website http://www.tirumala.org or https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in. For further details contact Phone Numbers : 0877-2264079, 2264555, Fax No. 0877-2264554
TTD-40021(31)/1/2024-PRO SEC (Adv. No.287) Dated: 18.01.2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

RAJASTHAN SAMWAD
Department of Information and Public Relations
Government Secretariat, Jaipur-302 005
(Telephone & Fax No. 0141-2227057
Email id: eproc.dipr@gmail.com; dipr.rajasthan@gmail.com)
NIB No. 08 **Date: 17.01.2025**
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Bids for RATE CONTRACT OF AGENCIES/FIRMS for Providing Outdoor Media Service for Bikaner Region (Bikaner, Churu, Hanumangarh, Sri Ganganagar Districts Area) are invited from interested bidders up to 06:00 PM **06/02/2025**
Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and https://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in/. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 05 Crore**.
UBN No. IPR2425SLRC00033
Raj.Samwad/C/24/10491 **Managing Director**

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E-TENDER
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ERNAKULAM TERMINAL FOR KOCHI WATER METRO PROJECT.
E-Tender Id : 2024_KMRL_719981_1
Last date of submission: 04-02-2025
Tender documents can be downloaded from www.etenders.kerala.gov.in / www.kochimetro.org
Further corrigendum & addendum will be published only on website

INBRIEF

JSW MG Motor introduces Majestor sport utility vehicle

JSW MG Motor India on Saturday unveiled MG Majestor, India's first D+ segment SUV on the second day of the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025. D segment is a mid-size car, which is larger than compact cars but smaller than full-size cars. Besides, it has also showcased a line of nine global models, including IM5, IM6, MG HS, and MG7 Trophy Edition.Majestor is a new D+ segment SUV, having a wider dimension for both urban and off-road driving conditions. PTI

Provisions drag down RBL Bank Q3 net 86% to ₹33 crore

RBL Bank Ltd. reported a 86% drop year-on-year in third quarter net profit to ₹33 crore on account of making additional provision of ₹414 crore on a 'prudent basis' for gross NPAs of joint liability group (JLG) portfolio taking total NPA provision forthis portfolio to 85%. Net interest income (NII) grew 3% ₹1,585 crore, while the net interest margin was 4.90%. During Q3, there was a tax provision write-back of ₹150 crore on account of favourable appellate orders for past years.

Ashok Leyland unveils entry level LCV 'Saathi' at ₹6.49 lakh

Ashok Leyland unveiled entry-level light commercial vehicle (LCV) Saathi at Bharat Mobility Global Expo, strengthening its play in the segment. The Hinduja group firm has also presented GARUD 15, a multi-axle, front-engine 15-metre fully-built premium bus, a first in the country. It is designed specifically for long-distance intercity travel for India's diverse road conditions, with 42 sleeper berths. Saathi is priced at ₹6.49 lakh, Ashok Leyland said . PTI

VinFast revs up for foray into India's premium e-SUV race

The company expects its $500 million manufacturing plant in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, to be ready this year; will produce cars for domestic market and exports to South Asia, West Asia and Africa

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Vietnam's electric vehicle maker VinFast Auto on Saturday said its two electric SUVs – VF 7 and VF 6 – will hit the Indian market later this year to mark its foray into the country, which it said has a huge growth potential.

The company, which is investing $500 million to set up its manufacturing plant at Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu, expects completion of the facility in the second half of 2025 after which it will launch the products.

It is also in talks with the government for its investment in India to be considered for incentives under the new EV policy and is looking to export EVs made in India to West Asia and African markets.

"We hope it (Tuticorin plant) will be completed by the end of H1 or H2 beginning of 2025, then we can launch our cars," VinFast Asia CEO Pham Sanh Chau said here.

"This year, we will launch two products," he said when asked about the product launch plans.

Stressing the premium SUVs VF 7 and VF 6 will accelerate the adoption of EVs in India, Mr. Chau said,

"We come with a long-term vision, with the factory being constructed, with a network of dealers and workshops, and also with a network of charging points, we want to come, not to sell the car, but want to build the whole infrastructures." When asked if the company is seeking to avail of benefit from India's new EV policy aimed to woo foreign companies to set up manufacturing units in India, he said,"When we entered here (in India) at that time there was no scheme that the government was working at the moment, we enter here to stay long term..."

Mr. Chau, however, said VinFast has been in discussion with the government for its project to be considered for benefits under the policy as the firm would like to sell imported completely built unit (CBU) EVs in India as well.

"So, originally we intended to have a CBU, but we believe that it's better to have the factory, and from there, we launch our product," he added.

Last year, the government approved an electric-vehicle policy under which import duty concessions were offered to companies setting up manufacturing units in the country with a minimum investment of $500 million, in a move aimed at attracting major global players like U.S.-based Tesla.

Mr. Chau said the firm is seeking "to position ourselves as a premium car maker" targeting "the high end of the middle class". "We are thrilled by the immense potential of the Indian market," he said.

'Third largest market'

With India already being the third largest automobile market, Mr. Chau said,"We see immense potential and opportunity here." When asked if the company would be exporting from India, he said the company has plans for it.

"The reason why we selected Tuticorin is because it's very close to the port and to the airport, so it allows us to export our product overseas." He added the firm hoped to enjoy the support of export incentives from the government.

VinFast will export to markets in South Asia, the West Asia and Africa from its Indian plant, he said.

At the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 here, VinFast also displayed its VF 3, VF e34, VF 8, VF 9 SUVs; the Evo 200, Klara, Feliz, Vento, Theon electric scooters; DrgnFly electric bike and the VF Wild pick-up truck concept.

India foray: Tuticorin was chosen for factory site as it's very close to port and airport, allowing exports, says Cahu. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BYD unveils SEALION 7 e-SUV

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

China's EV major BYD unveiled SEALION 7 e-SUV while announcing the start of vehicle bookings. The firm also showcased the SEALION 6 and BYD Super Plug-in Hybrid EV and the Yangwang U8.

"We are excited to lead the charge in transforming the industry with products that not only inspire but also contribute meaningfully to a greener future. In line with this, we are set to expand dealership network to 40 within January and grow our network even further through 2025," BYD India head of electric passenger vehicles business Rajeev Chauhan said.

India's auto sector to hit global peak in 5 years: Gadkari

Nitin Gadkari (left) and H. D. Kumaraswamy (right)

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's automobile industry will be number one in the world in the next five years, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said, highlighting the industry has created 4.5 crore jobs till now, the highest in the country.

Addressing a Federation of Automobile Dealers Association (FADA) event, the Road Transport and Highways Minister further said demand for Indian automobile products was very high globally.

"The size of Indian automobile industry is now ₹22 lakh crore. I am confident that within five years, the Indian automobile industry will be number one in the world," he said.

Presently, size of the U.S. automobile industry is ₹78 lakh crore, followed by China (₹47 lakh crore) and India (₹22 lakh crore).

Mr. Gadkari further said when he took charge of the Transport Ministry in 2014, the size of the auto industry was ₹7.5 lakh crore

"This is the automobile industry, which is giving maximum revenue as a part of GST to the State government and Bharat Sarkar," he added.

EV sales cross 14 lakh

Electric vehicle (EV) sales in India crossed 14.08 lakh units in 2024, achieving a market penetration rate of 5.59%, up from 4.44% in the previous year, Union Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy said on Saturday.

The Minister asserted the upward trend in EV adoption underscores the growing public trust in electric vehicles, as well as the positive impact of government incentives and industry innovation.

The Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel said that despite global uncertainties, the country's automotive sector has continued on a growth trajectory.

Talking about PLI for automobile and auto-components industry, he said out of 115 applications, 82 have been approved, with an estimated investment of ₹42,500 crore.

'Auto sales to soften in 2025-26, Tatas to focus on hatchbacks'

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Auto sales are expected to slow down in the coming fiscal year as dealers have surplus stocks, though Tata Motors will seek to woo back hatchback buyers by upgrading some of its models alongside its SUV launches later this year, including the Harrier EV, a top company official said.

"I think it will be a little difficult to deliver growth in 2025-26, which will most probably be in the low single digits because we are coming on the back of three or four years of spectacular growth," Vivek Srivatsa, chief commercial officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, told *The Hindu* on Saturday .

The softening of growth is primarily due to surplus stock across the dealership network. "So, potentially, the dealers could sell to customers, but not uptake from the company," Mr. Srivatsa said.

Hyundai Motor is exploring a partnership with TVS for last-mile mobility solutions

Press Trust of India
CHENNAI

Hyundai Motor Company on Saturday said it is exploring partnership with TVS Motor Company to analyse last-mile mobility solutions for India.

The South Korean automaker is exploring to join hands with TVS to conceptualise development of advanced electric three-wheelers and micro four-wheelers in India.

The project seeks to contribute to India's mobility market and empower last-mile connectivity in Indian cities, the automaker said in a statement.

Besides, TVS will explore manufacturing and marketing the EVs, collaborating with Hyundai Motor with the aim of enhancing the mobility experience in India, the company added.

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E-tenders are invited from IG and Non IG Insurance Companies approved by DG Shipping of India in two bid system through https://tenderwizard.com/UTL or https://tendersutl.gov.in for Protection and Indemnity Insurance cover for Thilaakam Vessel operated by LDCL for a period of one year from 27.04.2025 to 27.04.2026. Last date for submission on 06.02.2025 at 2.00 P.M.

For any help in e-tendering, please contact For any Technical Help, please contact HelpDesk Number : 0120-4001 002, email : support-eproc@nic.in, 9605557738/ 9686115318.

For regarding any queries in tender documents, you may contact: 04842323458, Mobile: 9447407653 (Officer Administration).

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI
I.T. DEPARTMENT, T.T.D., TIRUPATI
NOTICE INVITING EOI
Adv. No.16/TTD-11021(91)/18/2024-IT-TTD 17-01-2025
TTD intends to obtain best possible solution on Facial Recognition, presence of Piligrims in Compartments, IoT enabled People Counting (like DFMD), Head Count using Camera and AI Camera based Live Detection of faces. In this regard, interested organizations are requested to present their solutions before TTD on 27-01-2025 at 11.00 AM. For more details, please visit https://tirumala.org or contact on +91 7207330330
TTD-40021(31)/1/2024-PRO SEC (Adv. No.291) Dated: 18.01.2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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No.KMSCL/KEMP/2517/2024 Date : 18.01.2025
E- TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited for the operation of 335 KANIV-108 ambulances in aggregator model in all districts of Kerala on behalf of Department of Health and Family welfare. Govt of Kerala. The pre bid meeting will be held at KMSCL Head office on 25.01.2025, 02:00p.m. The last date of online submission of bid is 15.02.2025, 05:00 P.M.The date of opening of online technical bid 25.02.2025 11:00 AM. The tender document and all other information's relating to the model, experience of the bidder and bidding process can be downloaded from the website. www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-)
Managing Director (Tender Inviting Authority)

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
DEPARTMENT OF SERICULTURE
Rc.No. 280/T/2024-25 Date: 15-01-2025
Sealed tenders are invited from the interested parties for disposal of Tasar Bye-products and Tasar BV & TV Reeling Cocoons (Govt. & Pvt Grainages stocks) available at various centres / Districts under this office control. Sealed tenders should reach this office on or before date of auction along with prescribed EMD in shape of DD drawn in the name of the controlling officer payable at respective place. It is proposed to dispose a quantity of **47.57 Lakhs** of Tasar BV & TV Reeling Cocoons, a quantity of **5.66 Lakhs** of Pierced Cocoons and Flimsy Cocoons **4.39 Lakhs** Nos. Through Open auction cum sealed tenders on the dates mentioned against each centre as detailed below. 1) ADS Chennur - Date of auction 23-01-2025 at MCMC, Chinnur. 2) ADS, Chennur Auction date on 24-01-2025 at ITC, Gollathalodi 3) JDS, Bhupalpally- Auction date on 25.01.2025 at GTSS, Mahadevpur. Further details can be had from the controlling officers concerned over cell in the office address mentioned below. JDS, Hanumakonda-8977714604, ADS, Chennur-8074402323, SO, Chennur-9000284832, SO, Mahadevpur-8074456206, SO Venkatapuram-9441770795.
DIPR R.O.No.9276-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 18.01.2025 Sd/- Joint Director of Sericulture Hanumakonda

DAKSHIN BHARAT AREA
Plain paper application with job applied for are invited for the following casual / contractual employees at various institute of Headquarter Dakshin Bharat Area. Mobile Number and email must be mentioned for issue of call up. Interested candidate may apply through registered post to HQ DB Area(A), Mount Road (Anna Salai)-600009 earliest but not later than 08 February 2025. Written test for shortlisted candidates will be conducted on 19 Feb 2025.

Ser. No.	Job	Vacancies	Eligibility	Remuneration
(a)	Clerk (ESM)	04	Min 10+2/ Intermediate pass. Min 5 years works experience. Ex servicemen.	Rs. 23,790/- to 40,000/-
(b)	Clerk (Civ/open)	03	Min 10+2/ Intermediate pass. Min 5 years works experience.	Rs. 23,790/- to 40,000/-
(c)	Chef Special	06	Min 8th pass. Min 05 years Experience in trade work.	Rs. 21,632/- to 30,000/-
(d)	Chef Normal	02	Min 8th pass. Min 05 years Experience in trade work.	Rs. 21,632/- to 30,000/-
(e)	Plumber-cum-Electrician	01	Min 10th pass. Min 05 years experience in trade work.	Rs. 21,632/- to 30,000/-
(f)	Gym Trainer	01	Min 10th pass. Experience in physical fitness training in a recognized Gym.	Rs. 20,000/- to 30,000/-
(g)	Driver (Light vehicle)	01	Min 8th pass with valid driving license (LMV).	Rs. 21,632/- to 30,000/-
(h)	House Keeper	15	Min 05 years Experience in trade work.	Rs. 19,526/- to 30,000/-
(j)	Masalchi	06		
(k)	Steward	07		
(l)	Gardner, Washer Man, Room Attendant and MTS	08		

Sd/-
Dakshin Bharat Area Provost Post

ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI - 600 025

TAMIL NADU COMMON ENTRANCE TEST (TANCET – 2025) for M.B.A. and M.C.A.	COMMON ENGINEERING ENTRANCE TEST AND ADMISSIONS (CEETA-PG - 2025) for M.E./M.Tech./M.Arch./M.Plan.
Applications are invited for Tamil Nadu Common Entrance Test **(TANCET-2025)** to be conducted by Anna University, Chennai on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu from the candidates who seek admission to **M.B.A. and M.C.A.** Degree Programmes for the academic year 2025–2026 offered at University Departments, Constituent Colleges of Anna University, Annamalai University, Government and Government Aided Colleges (Engineering, Arts & Science Colleges) and Self-Financing Colleges (Engineering, Arts & Science Colleges including stand-alone Institutions) in Tamil Nadu.	Applications are invited for Common Engineering Entrance Test and Admissions **(CEETA-PG - 2025)** to be conducted by Anna University, Chennai on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu from the candidates who seek admission to **M.E. / M.Tech. / M.Arch. / M.Plan** Degree Programmes for the academic year 2025–2026 offered at **University Departments, Constituent Colleges of Anna University, Annamalai University, Government and Government Aided Engineering Colleges only.** Limited number of monthly Scholarships offered by Government of Tamil Nadu are available to the students as per merit and following the reservation norms to pursue the higher studies.

Candidates can register only through online and the Entrance Test fee can be paid only through Online using the link https://tancet.annauniv.edu/tancet. The hall ticket and mark sheet should be downloaded from the above Web portal only.

FEES AND DATE OF ENTRANCE TEST

Programme	SC/SCA/ST of Tamil Nadu	Others	Date of Examination
TANCET - M.C.A.	Rs.500/-	Rs.1000/-	22.03.2025 (FN)
TANCET - M.B.A.	Rs.500/-	Rs.1000/-	22.03.2025 (AN)
CEETA-PG M.E./M.Tech./M.Arch./ M.Plan. (* inclusive of Counselling Charges for admission)	Rs.900/-* + GST on Counselling fee Rs.400/-	Rs.1800/-* + GST on Counselling fee Rs.800/-	23.03.2025 (FN)

IMPORTANT DATES			
	i)	Commencement of Registration of application (online only)	24.01.2025
	ii)	Last date for Registration of application	21.02.2025

ELIGIBILITY: Details of the eligibility criteria and the procedure for registration are available in TANCET Web portal **https://tancet.annauniv.edu/tancet.** Other State candidates can appear for the entrance test and the eligibility conditions will be stipulated by the admitting authority / University.
DIPR/40/Display/2025 **SECRETARY, TANCET**

Kotak Mahindra Bank Q3 PAT rises 10% to ₹4,701 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. reported a 10% growth in consolidated net profit year-on-year for the third quarter ended December 31 to ₹4,701 crore.

At the consolidated level, return on assets (ROA) for Q3 of 2024-25 or FY25 was 2.30% (from 2.46% for Q3 FY24), the bank said. Return on equity (ROE) for Q3 FY25 (annualised) was lower at 12.43% (13.83% for Q3FY24), it said.

The bank's consolidated capital adequacy ratio as per Basel III norms as on December 31, was 23.4%.

Total assets under management (AUM) as on December 31, stood at ₹6,86,197 crore, up 29% from a year ago. Domestic mutual fund equity assets rose 39% to ₹319,161 crore.

On a standalone basis the bank's PAT for Q3 FY25 increased to ₹3,305 crore from ₹3,005 crore in Q3 FY24, marking a 10% rise. .

RNA, not DNA, is the main cause of acute sunburn

The Hindu Bureau

Over the years, we have been told that sunburn damages the DNA leading to cell death and inflammation. However, a new study conducted on mice as well as human skin cells has found that is not the full truth. The researchers found that instead of the DNA, the acute effects of sunburn were actually caused due to damage to the RNA. The objective of the study was to describe the impact of UV radiation on the skin and what causes this damage. The researchers found the same skin response to UV radiation exists in both mice and human cells. The results of the study were published in the journal *Molecular Cell*.

mRNA damage triggers a response in ribosomes (protein complexes that "read" the mRNA to synthesise protein), orchestrated by a protein known as ZAK-alpha – the so-called ribotoxic stress response – the new study shows. The response can be described as a surveillance system within the cells, which registers the RNA damage, leading to inflammatory signalling and recruitment of immune cells, which then leads to inflammation of the skin.

"We found that the first thing the cells respond to after being exposed to UV radiation is damage to the RNA and that this is what triggers cell death and inflammation of the skin. In mice exposed to UV radiation, we found responses such as inflammation and cell death, but when we removed the ZAK gene, these responses disappeared, which means that ZAK plays a key role in the skin's response to UV-induced damage," Dr. Simon Bekker-Jensen from the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine and a coauthor of the study said in a release.

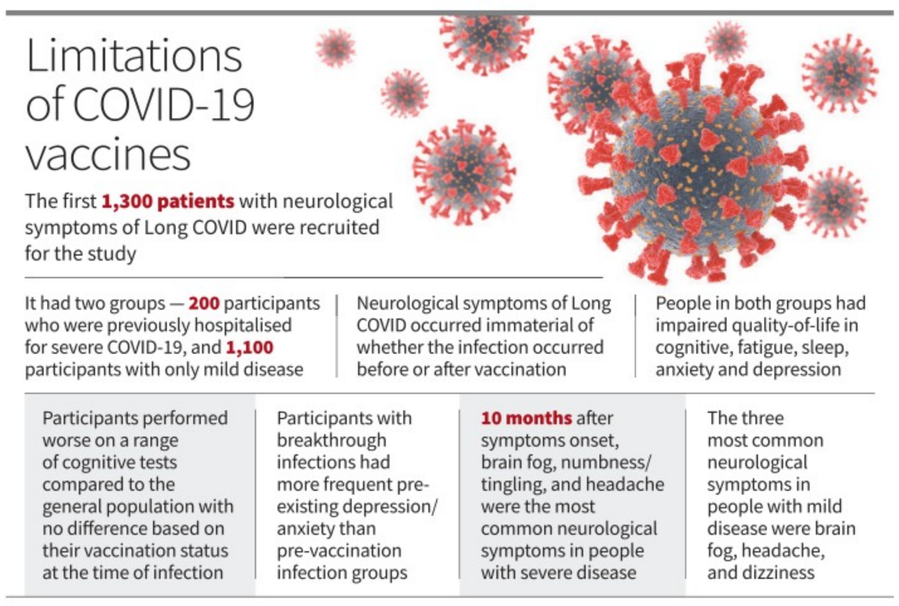
He adds: "So you could say that everything depends on this one response, which monitors all protein translations occurring. The cells respond to the RNA damage, realising that something is wrong, and this is what leads to cell death."

"Our work highlights ribosomes and the ZAK gene as the most proximal stress-signal-sensor pair that kickstarts the well-established acute skin reactions to acute UVB irradiation. Our findings also indicate that there are different, or at least temporally and phenotypically distinct, roles for the RSR [ribotoxic stress response] and DNA damage signaling in sun-exposed skin, which likely has implications for skin immunity and skin carcinogenesis," the authors write.

COVID-19 vaccines fail to alter neuro symptoms of Long COVID

While vaccination decreases the severity of acute COVID-19 and the rate of hospitalisation and death, it does not alter the subsequent neurologic manifestations of Long COVID

R. Prasad


Limitations of COVID-19 vaccines
The first 1,300 patients with neurological symptoms of Long COVID were recruited for the study
It had two groups — 200 participants who were previously hospitalised for severe COVID-19, and 1,100 participants with only mild disease
Neurological symptoms of Long COVID occurred immaterial of whether the infection occurred before or after vaccination
People in both groups had impaired quality-of-life in cognitive, fatigue, sleep, anxiety and depression
Participants performed worse on a range of cognitive tests compared to the general population with no difference based on their vaccination status at the time of infection
Participants with breakthrough infections had more frequent pre-existing depression/anxiety than pre-vaccination infection groups
10 months after symptoms onset, brain fog, numbness/tingling, and headache were the most common neurological symptoms in people with severe disease
The three most common neurological symptoms in people with mild disease were brain fog, headache, and dizziness

While COVID-19 vaccination decreases the severity of COVID-19 disease and the rate of hospitalisation and death, a study published recently has found that vaccination prior to SARS-CoV-2 infection does not necessarily reduce the neurological manifestations and burden of Long COVID. This includes patients who had a severe infection that necessitated hospitalisation and those with a mild infection who did not require hospitalisation. Common neurological symptoms of Long COVID include brain fog, numbness and tingling, headache, dizziness, problems with smell and taste, and intense fatigue.

At the beginning of the study, the authors hypothesised that since COVID-19 vaccines reduce the severity of COVID-19 disease, the vaccines may also similarly reduce the neurological manifestations of subsequent Long COVID. But the findings of the study have thrown a surprise. "While vaccination decreases the severity of acute COVID-19 and the rate of hospitalisation and death, the sobering conclusion of our study is that vaccination prior to infection did not alter the subsequent neurologic manifestations of Long COVID in our clinic population," the authors write. The study was published in the journal *Brain Communications*.

"We aimed to identify what effects – if any – vaccination prior to infection has on neurological symptoms of Long COVID, as well as the quality of life and cognitive function of our patients. These findings are sobering since it shows that vaccination prior to infection does not reduce the neurological manifestations of Long COVID," Igor Koralnik from Northwestern Medicine and the corresponding author of the paper said in a release.

The study recruited the first 1,300 patients with neurological symptoms of Long COVID at the Northwestern Medicine Neuro COVID-19 Clinic between May 2020 and March 2023. Of the 1,300 participants enrolled in the study, 200 participants had been previously hospitalised for severe COVID-19, while the remaining 1,100 participants had only mild COVID-19 symptoms that did require hospitalisation.

Besides grouping the patients based on the severity of the disease requiring hospitalisation, the authors also looked at the timing of infection – breakthrough infection post-vaccination and infection prior to vaccination. Based on the quantitative metrics used to assess the quality of life, the study found that patients in both groups – those with severe disease requiring hospitalisation and those with a mild disease not requiring hospitalisation – had impaired quality-of-life in cognitive, fatigue, sleep, anxiety and depression immaterial of whether the infection had occurred post-vaccination (breakthrough infection) or before vaccination.

The study found that patients in both groups – severe disease requiring hospitalisation and mild disease not requiring hospitalisation – with breakthrough infections had more frequent pre-existing depression/anxiety than their respective pre-vaccination infection groups. Also, patients with mild disease not requiring hospitalisation due to breakthrough infections had more frequent comorbidities of headache, lung and gastrointestinal diseases than those with infection before vaccination. An average of 10 months after symptom onset, brain fog (86.5%), numbness/tingling (56.5%), and headache (56.5%) were the three most common neurological symptoms in patients with severe disease requiring hospitalisation. For patients with mild disease not requiring hospitalisation, the three most common neurological symptoms were brain fog (83.9%), headache (70.9%) and dizziness (53.8%). Patients with mild disease caused by breakthrough infections more frequently reported dizziness (61.5%) compared to pre-vaccination infection patients (50.6%).

The study found that patients developing neurological symptoms of Long COVID after breakthrough infections have a higher burden of comorbidities than those with pre-vaccination infections. According to the authors, this highlights different risk factors warranting targeted management. Further longitudinal studies are warranted to determine the long-term outcome of neurological symptoms of Long COVID patients with breakthrough infections and pre-vaccination infections, they note.

In another paper published in November 2024, the same team from Northwestern Medicine found that neurologic manifestations of Long COVID disproportionately affected young and middle-aged adults regardless of acute COVID-19 severity. The study found that younger and middle-aged individuals accounted for 142 of 200 (71%) patients who were previously hospitalised for severe COVID-19 and 995 of 1100 (90.5%) patients with only mild COVID-19 symptoms that did require hospitalisation. While there was a higher prevalence of comorbidities and abnormal neurologic findings in older patients, at 10 months from COVID-19 onset, there was significant lower prevalence of neurologic manifestations of Long COVID in older patients. On the other hand, younger and middle-age patients suffer from a higher burden of neurological symptoms of Long Covid and cognitive dysfunction contributing to decreased quality of life. "Neuro Long COVID principally affects adults in their prime, contributing to profound public health and socioeconomic impacts warranting dedicated resources for prevention, diagnosis and interventions," they write.

Development delays in children exposed to Zika in utero

The Hindu Bureau

As per a retrospective-prospective, matched cohort study published recently, exposure to Zika virus while still in the womb can lead to a greater risk for neurodevelopmental delay in early childhood even when children are born without any signs of congenital Zika syndrome (CZS). Compared with the control group, the risk of adverse outcomes in children exposed to the virus in utero was nearly threefold higher. Also, the risk of motor and cognitive delay was significantly higher in exposed children. The results of the study were published recently in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Researchers enrolled 148 mother-infant pairs, which included 79 Zika-exposed during pregnancy and 69 pairs who were not exposed to the virus during pregnancy, which constituted the control group. Children were assessed at ages two through five. Among 146 children included in the study, 40 (27.4%) had at least one adverse outcome, including 30 of 77 (39.0%) in the exposed group and 10 of 69 (14.5%) in the control group. This would mean that children who were exposed to the virus in the womb had 2.7 times the risk of adverse outcomes compared with children who were not exposed to the virus in utero. "This suggests a high potential for adverse paediatric outcomes in children born to mothers with confirmed Zika virus infection," the authors write.

According to the authors, recent studies have shown that Zika virus damages neural progenitor cells and the hippocampus, a region crucial for learning, memory, cognition, and emotional response. Studies also found that language function of children was one of the most affected, with about 35% of children evaluated showing language delays.

The risk of motor and cognitive delay was significantly higher in children exposed to virus in utero. GETTY IMAGES

This study also found that the timing of maternal infection had a significant predictive risk factor. Children born to mothers who were infected during the first trimester had significantly higher risks of motor and cognitive delays than when mothers were infected during the third trimester. In the study, no significant associations were found when comparing second and third trimesters of infection for both early and long-term outcomes. "In 44% of pregnancies wherein maternal infection occurred in the first trimester, at least one adverse event was identified in the child, with 11.2-fold greater odds of adverse outcomes compared with children of mothers infected in the third trimester," the authors write.

Though the study was conducted with participants who knew their Zika status in pregnancy through testing, according to estimates, nearly 80% of infected pregnant women show no symptoms. This complicates the identification of infected individuals. Considering the large percentage of asymptomatic infections during pregnancy, the authors say the findings of the study underlines the importance of considering these cases despite challenges in identification, especially when they do not show immediate symptoms. "Clinical manifestations in children can surface later, potentially leading to numerous undetected cases," they write. "This underscores the complexities in identifying asymptomatic cases, which may result in underestimating the total number of cases."

To highlight the challenges in identifying asymptomatic cases, they cite an example of a woman in the study who was infected three months before pregnancy but remained asymptomatic throughout her gestation. Her infection came to light only when the child showed clinical signs of in utero exposure. "This supports the hypothesis of prolonged viremia after the acute phase and the persistence of Zika virus in body compartments like semen," they note.

SNAPSHOTS

Red meat consumption increases risk of dementia

Red meat consumption is an established risk factor for chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. A new study has found that eating greater quantities of red meat, especially in processed forms, increased risk for dementia, too. Those eating a daily average of one-quarter or more of a serving (three ounces) of processed red meats compared to those having less than one-tenth a serving each day had a 13% higher risk of developing dementia.

Asteroid impact sulphur release less lethal in extinction

Most studies considered sulphur as the most crucial factor causing mass extinction of dinosaurs. But estimates of the volume of sulphate aerosols released from the vaporisation of the impacted rocks in Mexico have varied widely. A new study used sulphur concentrations and isotopic compositions from new drill cores of impact rocks within the crater region, combined with detailed chemical profiles across K-Pg boundary sediments around the world and found that the role of sulphur has been overestimated.

Reasons for osteoarthritis risk in postmenopausal women

While hormonal changes associated with menopause have long been known to accelerate the development and progression of osteoarthritis, a biological mechanism of why this occurs was largely not known. A study discovered that loss of estrogen and progesterone promotes extracellular matrix degradation and chondrocyte deterioration, while restoring these hormones to pre-menopausal levels protected against cartilage degeneration.

Question Corner

On the wing

Do songbirds socialise during migration?

The flight paths of migrating songbirds may not be entirely innate, a new study has found. Evidence from over 18,300 hours of recorded flight calls suggests songbirds may "talk" to other species as they migrate, forming social connections and – just maybe – exchanging information about the journey. Using a machine learning tool allowed researchers to analyse 18,300 hours of acoustic recording to quickly detect the signature flight calls of 27 species. After identifying species, the team measured how often certain calls co-occurred in time, testing intervals of 15, 30, and 60 seconds. Regardless of this, they found associations between species than expected by chance alone. Looking to explain these associations, the found species' wing lengths and the similarity of their calls were the key factors. In contrast, birds that "buddy up" during stopovers were not maintaining those relationships in the air, and they were not necessarily flying with closely related species or birds that shared their preferences for specific habitats.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

FAQ

Why are fertility levels declining in India?

What has a global study shown about the total fertility rate in India? Why are the southern States worried?

C. Maya

The story so far:

A comprehensive demographic analysis of global fertility in 204 countries and territories from 1950-2021 has found that fertility is declining globally and that future fertility rates will continue to decline worldwide, remaining low even under successful implementations of pro-natal policies.

What has it noted about India?

The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2021, noted that India has moved from a fertility rate of 6.18 in the 1950s to a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 1.9 in 2021. This, it pointed out, was below the replacement fertility level of 2.1 (which is the average number of children a woman should have to replace herself and her generation, for population stability). The GBD study projected that the TFR could fall further to 1.04 – barely one child per woman – by 2100.

The steep fall in fertility levels has triggered concerns about the political and socio-economic fallout, especially in the southern States, which fear the loss of parliamentary seats post the delimitation exercise in 2026.

Why is fertility falling?

Even though the country has had one of the oldest birth control/family planning programmes, increased female literacy, workforce participation of women, women's empowerment and improved aspirations could have contributed more to the steady drop in fertility rates over the decades than the faithful adoption of family planning initiatives.

> With an ageing population, increased demands on healthcare, a migrating youth, the consequences of declining fertility are being acutely felt in States such as Kerala

The decline in fertility rate has also a lot to do with changing societal attitudes towards marriage and reproduction, with women increasingly exercising their choice. They often prefer to marry late or not at all, often choosing career and financial independence over motherhood. Rising rates of infertility in both men and women and abortions are important factors which could be contributing to this decline in fertility though no absolute data is available. With an increasing number of young men and women opting to go abroad for higher studies and jobs and choosing to settle down and raise their families there, migration is another key factor that could be in play when one considers the decline in fertility levels.

What are the implications?

Declining fertility rates have resulted in a rapid demographic transition in many southern States. The consequences of this – an ageing population, a declining young workforce and increased demands on healthcare and social security measures for the care of an increasing population of the elderly – are being acutely felt in States such as Kerala. Migration of youngsters in search of better prospects is also an issue.

What is happening in the southern States?

There is concern over the irreversible fertility decline across the country, but more so in the southern States, where fertility rates had dropped below the replacement levels much earlier than the rest of India.

Kerala led the demographic transition in the South, achieving the replacement level fertility rate in 1988, with the other four States achieving this by mid-2000. Along with education and women's empowerment and development in the social and health sectors, which were the hallmark of Kerala's high human development index, the State has also seen low economic investments and growth. Educated youth are leaving the State; the proportion of the aged population is expected to surpass that of children (23% in 2036). Changed attitudes towards marriage and motherhood are beginning to reflect in the health of women, leading to an increasing proportion of older mothers and pregnancy-related morbidities.

Kerala's high labour wages and high quality of life index are attracting internal migration from other States to supplant a shrinking workforce. The State Planning Board reckons that by 2030, the proportion of migrant labour could be close to 60 lakh, about one-sixth of the State's population.

What is the way forward?

Fertility decline is almost always irreversible and the graph, once it starts going down, may never bounce back. Countries like South Korea, which tried to stem the demographic crisis by pumping in millions have failed and the fertility rate plunged from 0.78 in 2022 to 0.73 in 2023.

Demographers suggest that socio-economic policies that propel the growth of the economy, improve job prospects for the youth and tap the potential of a growing population of senior citizens, can help in reducing the impact of a long spell of low, sub-replacement level fertility rates on countries.

Will the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip hold?

How did Israel and Hamas come to an agreement? Why did it take 15 months for a deal? What will it entail? What role did Qatar, Egypt and the U.S. play? How will it affect other countries in the region? How will things change with Trump in the White House?

Stanly Johny

The story so far:

After 15 months of fighting, which was triggered by Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack in which about 1,200 people were killed, Israel and Hamas have accepted a ceasefire in Gaza. On Saturday, Israel's 24-member cabinet gave approval to the agreement, which is expected to be implemented in three phases. The deal, which came into force on Sunday, was reached in talks mediated by Qatar, Egypt and the U.S. If it holds, it would provide a desperately needed relief for Gaza, the tiny strip along the Mediterranean Sea which was relentlessly bombed by Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) over the past 15 months in which over 46,000 Palestinians were killed and almost the entire population of the enclave displaced.

What are the terms?

The deal is to be implemented in three phases. In the 42-day first phase, Hamas will release 33 hostages, most of those alive, and Israel will free roughly 1,000 Palestinian security prisoners. Israel will also partially withdraw the IDF from Gaza, and allow the entry of about 600 trucks of humanitarian aid into the enclave every day. The IDF is expected to withdraw from the Netzarim Corridor, which separates northern Gaza, which has seen massive Israeli bombardment from Day one of the war, from the south, where most of the enclave's population have been pushed into. If the Israeli troops withdraw from Netzarim, it would allow some of the displaced Gazans to move from the south and centre to the north.

> Arab and Israeli media claim that the Trump factor played a key part

But in the first phase, Israeli troops will remain in the Philadelphi Corridor on the Rafah crossing – which means Israel will continue to monitor Gaza's border with Egypt. On the 16th day of the first phase, discussions are expected to begin on the second phase. If the first phase is implemented as per plan, 65 hostages will still be in Hamas's captivity and Israeli troops will still be there at Philadelphi and some buffer zones in Gaza. In the second stage, Hamas will be required to release most of the remaining living hostages and both sides should declare a permanent end to the hostilities. The third phase will involve discussions on the 'day after'.

In ruins: Smoke rises over the Gaza Strip after an Israeli strike, as seen from the Israeli border on January 17. GETTY IMAGES

Why did both parties accept a ceasefire now?

The deal accepted by both parties is not essentially different from the deal offered eight months ago. Hamas had announced earlier that it would accept a deal, provided the war is brought to a permanent end.

In May, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed the agreement, saying Israel would continue its military offensive in Gaza until it meets its objectives.

But a lot has changed in the region since.

Israel now believes its regional standing has become stronger. Hezbollah, the Lebanese militia organisation, has lost most of its top leadership in Israeli attacks. The IDF has killed most of the leaders of Hamas, including Yahya Sinwar. Israel carried out a massive air strike in Iran in October, targeting the Islamic Republic's air defences and other military facilities (to which Iran hasn't responded yet). More importantly, the fall of the Assad regime in Syria has further weakened Iran's so-called 'axis of resistance' in West Asia. Mr. Assad's Syria was the land bridge between Iran and Hezbollah. Since this land bridge is disrupted, Hezbollah will find it difficult to rearm itself. These developments have also strengthened Mr. Netanyahu's political standing at home.

These factors probably influenced him to change his position about a deal with Hamas. But that's not all.

After months of fighting, Israel failed to meet its declared objectives in Gaza. When he launched the war, Mr. Netanyahu said Israel would dismantle Hamas. Israeli attacks have degraded Hamas's militant infrastructure, but Hamas reinvented itself as an insurgency, its original avatar. Antony Blinken, the U.S. Secretary of State, recently said the American assessment was that Hamas recruited as many fighters as it had lost.

The inability to meet its objectives through military means might also have influenced Israel's leaders to take a more pragmatic view of pausing the conflict and getting the hostages freed. Then, there is the Trump factor.

What role did the U.S. play?

The Biden administration has been pushing for a ceasefire for long, but it also offered full support to Israel's war in Gaza. Washington continues to supply weapons to Israel and offer diplomatic protection to Israel at global fora. Mr. Biden's refusal to use effective pressure tactics on Israel meant that the latter continued the war despite Washington's public call and private diplomatic push for a ceasefire. But now, Mr. Biden can claim that a ceasefire was reached just days before he left the White House. Arab and Israeli media claim that the Trump factor also played a key role. Donald Trump had earlier said that "all hell will break loose" if there was no agreement between Israel and Hamas before he takes office on January 20 as the 47th President of the U.S. Mr. Trump's West Asia envoy Steve Witkoff had met the negotiators and the Israeli leadership last week. *Times of Israel* reported, quoting Arab officials, that Mr. Witkoff managed to achieve in a single meeting more than what President Biden did the whole year.

Mr. Trump is known for his pro-Israel positions. But he had promised during his campaign that he would bring the wars in West Asia and Ukraine to an end if returned to the White House. If the war is brought to an end, besides the humanitarian angle, it would offer some stability to West Asia. Mr. Trump may not like the U.S. being drawn into another never-ending war in the region. Also, if the Israel-Hamas war pauses, the Houthis of Yemen could stop attacking Israel and the ships passing through the Red Sea. Both the U.S. and Israel carried out air strikes against the Houthis in recent months but failed to stop their attacks.

If the Red Sea calms down, normal freight traffic through the Suez Canal could resume, tamping down the inflationary pressure on the global economy.

Why is Phase 3 going to be a challenge?

As of now, the focus of both parties would be on implementing the first phase – which has a fair chance of being implemented. The second phase could see the exchange of more hostages for prisoners. But the real challenge would be Phase 3. Hamas has demanded a complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza. Israel now realises that it cannot dismantle Hamas – the organisation would survive in one way or another. On a more practical note, Israel doesn't want to leave Hamas as a ruling or fighting force in Gaza. This poses a dilemma for Israel. If it agrees to end the war and leave Gaza, Hamas would remain a militant insurgency in Gaza. If Israel continues to stay in Gaza, there won't be a lasting ceasefire agreement and a war of attrition will go on.

Can Bhopal waste be safely disposed of?

What is the plan on the hazardous gas leak waste? How much has the Central government allocated to the Madhya Pradesh government to incinerate the waste and deposit the residue at a landfill in Pithampur? Why have there been protests?

Priyali Prakash
Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

On January 2, Madhya Pradesh government authorities moved 358 tonnes of hazardous waste from the defunct Union Carbide facility in Bhopal to the Pithampur industrial area in Dhar district. On December 3 last year, the Madhya Pradesh High Court had set a four-week deadline for authorities to dispose of this waste, nearly 40 years after the gas disaster that killed more than 4,000 people and injured or debilitated thousands more.

What is the waste's status?

The disaster on the intervening night of December 2-3, 1984, was the result of poisonous gases leaking from the plant, which Union Carbide had set up to manufacture fertilizers. The waste at the facility is composed of the ingredients required to make these fertilizers.

After years of lying in Bhopal and multiple petitions from civil society groups, the Madhya Pradesh government was to incinerate the waste at a Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility (TSDF) in Pithampur more than 200 km away. Officials arranged for the waste to be packaged and transported in secure long-haul containers.

> The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says composite liners at landfills with hazardous waste will degrade and have to be reinstalled at intervals

But protests in the industrial town by the local population fearing harmful emissions from the incineration have paused the State's plans.

On January 6, the Madhya Pradesh High Court gave the State government six weeks to safely dispose of the waste. The order came after State authorities had also sought time to spread awareness about the manner of disposal and measures to minimise its effects on health and the environment.

The Central government has allocated ₹126 crore to the State to incinerate the waste and deposit the residue in the TSDF landfill.

Sensitive issue: Trucks with toxic waste inside Pithampur Industrial Waste Management Pvt Ltd in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh on January 11. A.M.FARUQUI

Why Pithampur?

In 2012, the Supreme Court selected the Pithampur facility as being the most suitable final destination for the waste. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is the sole TSDF in the State and includes a landfill and an incinerator. The CPCB submitted an affidavit to the apex court in 2013 attesting to the TSDF's ability to 'handle' the waste.

In 2015, Madhya Pradesh organised a 'trial run' in which it incinerated 10.1 tonnes of the waste at the TSDF. The CPCB monitored the process with help from experts from private laboratories in Chennai and Hyderabad. Notably, the State had secretly advanced the incineration date by a few days to sidestep local resistance.

According to Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation Department director Swatantra Kumar Singh, the emissions from the trial were under stipulated limits. The State's public relations office also reported no adverse effects on the environment or on public health.

Is the waste harmful?

The 'trial' waste consisted of 4.8 tonnes of excavated waste, 1.6 tonnes of semi-processed residue, 1.3 tonnes of naphthol waste, 1.3 tonnes of carbaryl residue, and 0.8 tonnes of reactor residue. According to a December 2024 press release from the State's public relations office, the Regional Director (Central) of CPCB Bhopal had collected and tested five water samples from around the Pithampur TSDF. The report (numbered WW24.25-188.189) indicated the water colour, chloride, sulphate, and fluoride concentrations, hardness, and the amount of total dissolved solids "exceeded permissible limits" specified in the IS 10500 standard in two open wells near the landfill.

However, the release said according to "scientists involved in the analysis" the higher values "reflect groundwater quality and don't appear to be linked to the TSDF operations".

The release also said experts from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bhopal and the Indian Council of Medical Research reportedly surveyed 12 villages and found the prevalence of skin and respiratory ailments to be lower than the national average.

Credible media reports in 2015 had said around four-times as much ash and residue as the waste combusted (by mass) had been generated and which the CPCB had said it would dispose of in the landfill, including protections to contain leachates.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has said these protections can degrade and need to be reinstalled at periodic intervals.

What next?

Madhya Pradesh has temporarily put off incinerating the waste. Authorities have said the local protests, including two attempts at self-immolation, mean they would first like to improve public confidence in the safety of the disposal process.

"We are preparing 50-odd master trainers, including science teachers, professors, and officials," *PTI* quoted Dhar collector Priyank Mishra as saying. "They will be informed about the exact status of the waste before they reach out to people to dispel misinformation."

There will also be another trial run: a 90-kg batch will be incinerated at 1,200° C, Mr. Singh said. According to the EPA, most organic compounds (like naphthol) are destroyed when subjected to 590° to 650° C. Operating hazardous waste incinerators at 980-1,200° C would thus strip the waste of organics.

If the resulting emissions don't breach legal thresholds, the rest will be incinerated in batches of 270 kg each over three months. If the emissions exceed, Mr. Singh had told *The Hindu* the batch size would be reduced and the duration extended to nine months.

The next hearing in the High Court is set for February 18.

With inputs from Mehul Malpani.

A confluence of faith and culture

Maha Kumbh

The 45-day gathering of Hindu ascetics, saints, ash-smeared Naga Sadhus, skeleton-donning Aghoris and other pilgrims is expected to have a footfall of 450 million this year, nearly twice the population of Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous State

Ishita Mishra

PHOTO: PTI

Monday, January 13, marked the first day of 45-day long Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, listed by UNESCO as the largest peaceful religious congregation of pilgrims on earth, where devotees walk miles to take a dip at 'Sangam', the convergence of the holy rivers Ganga and Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati. The fair is visited by Hindu ascetics, saints, ash-smeared Naga Sadhus, skeleton-donning Aghoris and other pilgrims. It is expected to have a footfall of 450 million this year, nearly twice the population of Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous State.

Kumbh, derived from a Sanskrit word which means a pitcher, is rotationally held every three years at the four riverside cities of Prayagraj, Haridwar, Ujjain and Nasik. Its schedule is based on the planetary alignments, mainly of that of Sun and Jupiter. The Ardh (half) Kumbh is held every six years at Haridwar and Prayagraj while the Purna (complete) Kumbh takes place in all four cities, every 12 years. The Maha Kumbh happens after 12 Purna Kumbhs in Prayagraj, once in 144 years and is considered the most auspicious.

The mythological beliefs say that drops of *Amrit* (essence of immortality) were spilled at these sites from an urn which came out during the *Samudra Mantha* (churning of the ocean) done by the gods and demons.

The central ritual of the fair remains bathing in icy cold waters of the sacred rivers where millions immerse themselves with the belief that the act will cleanse them of their sins and liberate them from the cycle of birth and death and will attain spiritual liberation.

A gathering of ascetics

Religious texts also link Kumbh Mela's origins to the 8th-century philosopher, Adi Shankaracharya, who established this practice of gatherings of ascetics from across the country, for discussion on religion. It was Shankaracharya who instituted the monastery system and the 13 Akharas (warrior-saint sects) – Nirvani, Atal, Niranjani, Anand, Juna, Awahan and Agni, Nirmohi, Digambar Ani and Nirvani Ani, the two Udasin Akharas (Naya and Bada) and the Nirmala Akhara. The saints from these sects, who sport weapons such as tridents, swords, and lances, are the main attraction at the Kumbh.

The latest in the line of Akharas is the Kinnar (transgender) Akhara, established in 2015 by transgender rights activist Laxmi Narayan Tripathi. The Akhara is still competing for space between the community of religious leaders but remains one of the most visited Akharas in Kumbh.

The Akharas use the fair as an opportunity to elect their chiefs and divide powers at its council meeting called the Dharam Sansad. This year, the meeting, scheduled on January 27, may pass a proposal for the formation of a 'Sanatan Board' (a board dedicated to safeguard the Hindu religious sites), which will be sent to the government with a request for implementation.

The seers have already placed wishes such as no entry for Muslims and non-Hindus at the Kumbh, which was partially supported by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who says that those who don't believe in Sanatan Dharma should not visit the event.

Mahatma Gandhi had visited the Kumbh Mela in 1918. Political parties today capitalise on this event to win over Hindus. The fair was also used by the Vishwa Hindu Parishd to chalk out the blueprint for the Ram temple construction in Ayodhya in 1989.

With the BJP being in power at the Centre and State, this year's Kumbh is one of the most well-funded religious gatherings being held in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi dubbed it as "A Maha Yagya of Unity", as the Centre approved a special grant of ₹2,100 crore for it. About ₹7,500 crore was devoted to ensure proper logistics to host millions.

A sprawling tent city has been carved out within the limits of Prayagraj district, spread across an approximately 4,000-hectare area and divided in 25 sectors, 12 ghats for bathing. A large group of bureaucrats were deployed at the site to ensure smooth management of the fair. The airport was expanded to accommodate more flights while the Indian Railways has announced that it will run 13,000 trains to Prayagraj to ensure maximum devotees arrive at the Kumbh putting immense pressure on the town which exceeds its carrying capacity every time the fair is organised. In the 2019 Kumbh, this gathering generated 18,000 metric tonnes of solid waste.

Approximately 1,60,000 tent shelters have been constructed this time to accommodate 15-20 lakh *Kalpwasis* – devotees who spend around a month in the fair living a minimalistic life. Although the tents are free for the *Kalpwasis*, they do bear the brunt of rocketing price of groceries, travel and other needs.

Apart from the cubical-shaped hiking tents for *Kalpwasis*, the government has also set aside luxury cottages across the Sangam bank to drive tourism. These cottages cost ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh per night.

With 1,50,000 toilets, deployment of police offices, hospitals, banks, and eateries, the State has not left any stone unturned to make the Maha Kumbh an event like never before.

The fair has gigantic posters of the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister, advertising schemes and achievements of the BJP government, including the LPG schemes, Swachh Bharat, solar energy, among others.

Business opportunities

The fair presents business opportunities to both local traders as well as multinationals who set up kiosks to expand businesses. From Domino's pizza to Cafe Coffee Day, from RBI to LIC and from medicines to clothes, agriculture products and gadgets, the Maha Kumbh has a stall selling everything. The State has projected to generate up to ₹2 lakh crore from this 45-day long gathering, which will end on February 26.

With millions gathering at the river banks, the Kumbh Melas had seen accidents such as stampedes in the past, which led to the deaths of hundreds of pilgrims. With the humongous footfall at the site, incidents of missing cases too have become synonymous with the fair. Several Bollywood movies have drawn their plots from the Kumbh where heroes get separated from families at the fair and then dramatically reunited decades later.

After the end of the gathering, Sangam city will once again turn into a barren land, which will be used by the farmers to grow melons and children to play, leaving the sand banks to wait for another Kumbh to feel lively again.

THE GIST

- Kumbh, derived from a Sanskrit word which means a pitcher, is rotationally held every three years at the four riverside cities of Prayagraj, Haridwar, Ujjain and Nasik
- The Ardh (half) Kumbh is held every six years at Haridwar and Prayagraj while the Purna (complete) Kumbh takes place in all four cities, every 12 years
- The Maha Kumbh happens after 12 Purna Kumbhs in Prayagraj, once in 144 years and is considered the most auspicious

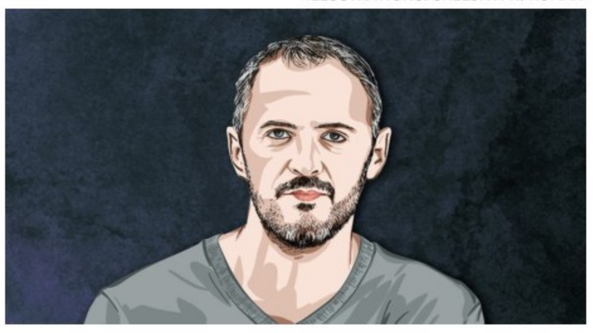
Activist short-seller

Nate Anderson

Known for investigative reports on publicly listed companies, the founder of Hindenburg Research says he is disbanding the group

G. Sampath

ILLUSTRATIONS: SREEJITH R. KUMAR



Nate Anderson, 'activist' short-seller and founder of Hindenburg Research, has decided to disband the U.S.-based investment research group known for its investigative reports on publicly listed companies. In a note shared on the Hindenburg website, he addressed the speculation on what triggered the move. "The plan has been to wind up after we finished the pipeline of ideas we were working on. And as of the last Ponzi cases we just completed and are sharing with regulators, that day is today."

Short-sellers are a rare breed in general, and in what has been a bullish market for the past several years, even more so. Mr. Anderson, with a small team of 11 people, built Hindenburg into a reputed research group that has caused over 100 individuals, including billionaires, to be civilly or criminally charged, and wiped out billions of dollars in companies' market values.

The son of a college professor and a nurse, Mr. Anderson obtained a business degree and started off with a job providing technical and sales advice to a financial analytics company. Subsequently, he moved on to auditing and verification of potential deals for investment firms of wealthy families. But all along, he had nursed a singular passion: unearthing scams. Aware that translating it into a full-fledged career would not be easy, he set up a brokerage firm that did due diligence for hedge funds, while pursuing "forensic financial research" in his personal time.

But as his brokerage firm failed to take off, debts mounted, and he faced eviction by his landlord, Mr. Anderson sold his brokerage licence and in 2017, plunged into his passion by setting up Hindenburg.

First major success

Short-selling involves borrowing the shares of a given company and selling them in the expectation that its price would fall, and when its price duly fell, buying them back at the lower price, and pocketing the difference as profit. The magnitude of the losses if the shorted share prices rose instead of tanking, are potentially unlimited.

Mr. Anderson's first big success came with Nikola, a maker of electric trucks. Hindenburg claimed that its management was lying about the technology status of its product. It famously exposed the fact that its truck, which in a video seemed to be cruising at good speed, was actually rolling downward on a slope in neutral gear. Nikola's shares plunged 15%, its chairman was charged with securities fraud, and Hindenburg made a killing on its short position.

He famously took on the billionaire oligarch Elon Musk by announcing a short position on Twitter following Mr. Musk's deal to buy the social media firm. Mr. Anderson bet that Mr. Musk would walk away from the deal. When four days after the agreement, Mr. Musk tried to do just that, Hindenburg made money.

When the case went to court, Hindenburg covered its short and "went long", believing that "Musk's arguments for backing out" won't win. They did not, and as Mr. Musk closed the deal at the originally agreed price, Hindenburg gained yet again.

Mr. Anderson made news in India for the first time in January 2023 when Hindenburg alleged that the Adani Group was using entities registered in Mauritius to perpetrate stock manipulation and accounting fraud. The Adani Group has denied the allegations.

Hindenburg hit the headlines again last August when it alleged that the Securities and Exchange Bureau of India (SEBI) chief Madhabi Buch and her husband held stakes in offshore funds linked to the Adanis. Ms. Buch and the Adanis have denied these allegations. But the Adani group has lost $150 billion from its market value since the Hindenburg report came out in 2023, and last November, Gautam Adani was indicted on securities fraud charges by U.S. regulators.

Mr. Anderson has now promised to "open-source" his methods of investigations so that others can take the Hindenburg legacy forward. Investors are typically not fond of short-sellers, given the existential danger they pose to the value of their holdings. But there is no denying the immense public interest value of Mr. Anderson's unique contributions in exposing what the state's regulatory apparatus should have prevented in the first place.

Return of the Begum

Khaleda Zia

The BNP politician, who has been acquitted in a corruption case, is now back in the limelight as her party is preparing for the next election in Bangladesh

Kallol Bhattacherjee

Early morning of May 30, 1981, clouds from the Bay of Bengal lashed Chittagong. Through the heavy pitter-patter of rain on the roof of the Circuit House of Chittagong, President Ziaur Rahman heard the sound of gunfire. A man of action known for his bravery as a Pakistani soldier in the 1965 India-Pakistan war and later as a nationalist officer who rebelled against the Pakistani Army in 1971, Rahman was not someone to hide. Dressed in his night suit, Rahman came out to check the source of the gun fire and just then a hail of bullets literally sliced him into two halves.

The killers, however, failed in their plot to seize power as Abdus Sattar, a seasoned political figure, quickly took charge as President with Army Chief Hossein Mohammed Ershad's support.

It was in this dramatic situation that Khaleda Zia, widow of Rahman, entered the political spectrum. She had reportedly fainted on hearing the news of the assassination of Rahman, but two and a half years later, Ms. Zia took over from Abdus Sattar. On January 13, 1984, Ms. Zia took charge of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) that was founded by Rahman.

The death of Rahman also came at a critical time for the volatile country. On May 17, Mujib's daughter Sheikh Hasina returned to Bangladesh.

Ms. Zia and Ms. Hasina came from different backgrounds. The former was the young wife of a Bengali officer in the Pakistani military and Ms. Hasina was the daughter of a firebrand anti-Pakistan figure. But in 1984, the two emerged as leaders of the two political alliances that opposed President Ershad.

Ms. Zia led a seven-party alliance and Ms. Hasina led a 15-party alliance against Ershad. In 1986, Ershad held a fraudulent election. Infuriated by the sham polling, the two alliances joined hands and finally dislodged Ershad from power in 1990.

After the fall of Ershad, the February 1991 election was won by the BNP and Ms. Zia, also known as Begum Khaleda, became the first woman Prime Minister of Bangladesh. But even as Ms. Zia was getting a grasp of the problems, a monstrous cyclonic storm killed nearly half a million people. Ms. Hasina sensed an opportunity and termed the BNP government incompetent. Despite the opposition, the BNP managed to win the 1996 election but had to give up power after the Awami League accused it of rigging the polls. Then Ms. Hasina became PM for the first time.

From 1991 till 2006, Ms. Zia dominated Bangladesh's politics, along with her rival Ms. Hasina. She returned to power with the support of the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh at the turn of the century and remained in office till 2006.

Boycott of elections

Though Ms. Zia was kept out of power by Ms. Hasina during the next 15 years, the BNP remained strong on the ground. While Ms. Zia took a backseat during the Hasina era, the day-to-day affairs of the party were handled by Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and Amir Khasru Mahmud Choudhury, who maintained the combative attitude of the party which boycotted election thrice – 2014, 2018 and 2024.

After being freed from detention following the fall of the Hasina government on August 5, 2024, Ms. Zia reiterated that she does not harbour any ill-will towards the currently exiled Ms. Hasina, giving a hint that she is waiting and watching how long the interim government led by Mohammad Yunus would last. While the BNP boycotted polls in the past, it is also known that the Hasina regime did not stop doctors from Johns Hopkins Hospital in the U.S. from flying into Dhaka to conduct a complex surgery on Ms. Zia in 2021.

With Hasina out of Bangladesh and the BNP enthused by the prospects of returning to power, Ms. Zia, 79, is once again in the limelight, but this time she is far more cautious. Earlier this month, an air ambulance from Qatar flew her for special medical care in London where she was reunited with her elder son Tarique Rahman who has been in exile since he was reportedly tortured by the military during the 2006-08 caretaker rule. Last week, Ms. Zia was acquitted in a 2008 corruption case, overturning a previous 10-year sentence.

In Bangladesh's fractious politics, Ms. Zia has been seen as a survivor. And her tactics will be tested once again whenever the interim government calls for elections.

BEIRUT

Hezbollah chief warns Israel over 'hundreds' of truce violations

REUTERS

Naim Qassem, the leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah, on Saturday accused Israel of hundreds of violations of a ceasefire, to be fully implemented by next week, and warned against testing "our patience". His remarks came during a visit to Lebanon by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. AFP

TEHRAN

Gunman kills two judges in Tehran tied to 1988 mass executions

REUTERS

A man fatally shot two prominent hard-line judges in Iran's capital Saturday, officials said, both of whom allegedly took part in the mass execution of dissidents in 1988. The attacker, who was armed with a handgun, killed himself. The victims were identified as clerics Mohammad Mogheiseh and Ali Razini. AP

ABUJA

Nigeria is admitted as a partner country of the BRICS bloc

AP

Nigeria has been admitted as a "partner country" of the BRICS bloc of developing economies, according to Brazil, the group's chair. BRICS was formed by Brazil, Russia, India and China in 2009, with South Africa added in 2010, as a counterweight to the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialised nations. AFP

LAHORE

Police, Islamists demolish Ahmadi place of worship in Pakistan

AFP

Police and members of the Islamist party Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan allegedly demolished an 80-year-old worship place of the minority Ahmadi community in Pakistan's Punjab province, an official said on Saturday. The incident took place on Friday at Daska Kalan, Sialkot, some 100 km from Lahore. PTI

Before ceasefire takes effect in Gaza, Yemen's Houthis fire missiles at Israel

The militants 'carried out a specific military operation targeting the Ministry of Defence of the Israeli enemy'; the ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas is to take effect on the eve of Trump's inauguration for a second term as U.S. President

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Tense region: Israeli armoured personnel carriers park near the Israel-Gaza border on Saturday, before the ceasefire deal. REUTERS

The Israeli military said it intercepted two missiles fired from Yemen on Saturday, a day before a ceasefire is set to take effect in war-battered Gaza.

The military activated air raid sirens in Jerusalem and in parts of central and southern Israel ahead of the interceptions during the day, with the first projectile shot down in the morning.

Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed the morning attack, hours after the Israeli military intercepted the incoming missile.

The Houthis "carried out a specific military operation targeting the so-called Ministry of Defence of the Israeli enemy... using a ballistic missile" in central Israel, the rebels said in a statement.

The morning attack had triggered explosions over Jerusalem as the military intercepted the missile.

Later, sirens blared across southern Israel as a second missile was fired from Yemen and intercepted by the Israeli air force, the military said.

"Following the sirens that sounded a short while ago in the areas of Eilat and Arava, a missile that was launched from Yemen was intercepted" before crossing into Israeli territory, it said.

The latest launches from Yemen came as a ceasefire in the war in Gaza would take effect from 0630 GMT (1200 IST) on Sunday.

Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, announcing the ceasefire agreement on Wednesday, said an initial 42-day ceasefire would see 33 hostages released by militants in Gaza.

The truce is to take effect on the eve of Donald Trump's inauguration for a second term as U.S. President.

'Ready for duties'

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas said the Palestinian Authority, which has partial administrative control in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, has completed preparations "to assume full responsibility in Gaza" after the war.

Israel has no definitive stance on post-war governance beyond rejecting any role for both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority.

Escaped death by a whisker, says Hasina on fleeing Dhaka

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Sheikh Hasina

Deposed Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said she and her younger sister Sheikh Rehana escaped death by just 20-25 minutes on August 5 last year when her Awami League government was toppled in a student-led mass uprising.

In a brief audio note released by her party on its Facebook page, Ms. Hasina expressed her gratitude to God for saving her life.

She also recalled two previous attempts on her life she narrowly escaped and said she believed that God had saved her life as part of a divine design to get something greater done by her.

"We escaped death by just 20-25 minutes. I feel surviving the killings on August 21, surviving the large bomb in Kotalipara, or surviving on August 5, 2024, there must be a will of Allah, the hand of Allah. Otherwise, I would not have survived this time," she is heard saying in Bangla in the audio clip.

In a trembling voice, the 77-year-old leader accused her political opponents of conspiring to get her killed.

Ms. Hasina has been living in India since August 5 last year when she fled Bangladesh following a massive student-led protest that toppled her Awami League's 16-year regime.

'I am suffering'

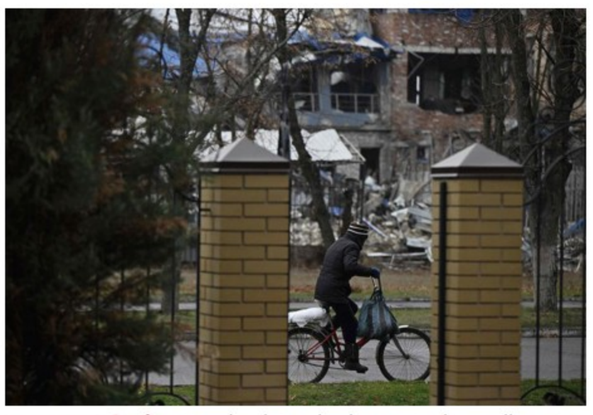
"I am suffering, I am without my country, my home, everything has been burned," Ms. Hasina said.

Ms. Hasina survived several attempts on her life including that of the August 21, 2004 grenade attack on a party rally where she was addressing as the opposition leader. Twenty-four people were killed in the attack.

In 2000, Ms. Hasina, then the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, was scheduled to speak at a rally in Kotalipara Upazila, Gopalganj District when police discovered a time bomb weighing 76 Kg 50 feet from the stage.

'Russia captures two more villages in eastern Ukraine'

Agence France-Presse
Associated Press
MOSCOW/KYIV



Incremental gains: Kremlin claimed to have seized two villages in the Donetsk region that Moscow claims to have annexed. AFP

Russia on Saturday said it had captured two more villages in eastern Ukraine, the latest territorial advances in its grinding offensive.

In a statement on Telegram, the Defence Ministry said its forces had "liberated" the villages of Vremivka and Petropavlivka, both in the Donetsk region that Moscow claims to have annexed.

Drone attack on Kyiv

Meanwhile, Russia attacked Ukraine's capital with a barrage of drones and missiles on Saturday, leaving at least three persons dead, while industrial sites in Russia were set ablaze by Ukrainian strikes.

Russia launched 39 Shahed drones, other simulator drones and four ballistic missiles in the early hours of Saturday morning, according to Ukraine's Air Force.

The office of Ukraine's general prosecutor said in a statement that the casualties included a security guard at a food establishment and people who were in a minibus on the street.

Elsewhere, industrial sites in Russia's Kaluga and Tula regions were set ablaze by Ukrainian drone attacks, local officials said Saturday. Russia's Defence Ministry said that 46 Ukrainian drones had been destroyed across the country overnight.

'Germany may send troops to Ukraine buffer zone'

Agence France-Presse
BERLIN

Germany's Defence Minister said he was open to sending German soldiers to Ukraine to help secure a demilitarised zone there if a ceasefire were agreed with Russia, in remarks published on Saturday.

In an interview with the *Suddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper, Boris Pistorius also said Germany should aim to spend around 3% of GDP on defence.

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump wants members of the NATO military alliance to devote 5% of their national output on defence, a demand that has already been rejected as too high by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

Asked about a possible deployment of German troops to help secure a buffer zone between Russia and Ukraine if one were agreed, Mr. Pistorius said: "We are the largest NATO partner in Europe. We will obviously have a role to play."

He said the issue would "be discussed in due time".

Mr. Pistorius said Russia was currently occupying "18% or 19% of Ukrainian territory". But despite nearly three years of war, it had "not gained more" than that and had suffered "extensive losses in its own army" in the attempt.

Defence spending

Asked about the contribution Germany should make towards NATO defence spending, Mr. Pistorius said: "We should be talking more about 3% than 2%."

Germany currently devotes around 2% of its GDP to defence.

Impeached South Korean leader argues for his release in court

Associated Press
SEOUL

Yoon Suk Yeol

South Korea's impeached President on Saturday argued for his release before a Seoul judge as the court reviewed whether to grant a law enforcement request for his formal arrest.

Mr. Yoon, who has been in detention since he was apprehended on Wednesday in a massive law enforcement operation at his residence, faces potential rebellion charges linked to his declaration of martial law on December 3, which set off the country's most serious political crisis since its democratisation in the late 1980s.

The Corruption Investigation Office for High-Ranking Officials, which is leading a joint investigation with the police and the military, requested the Seoul Western District Court to grant a warrant for Mr. Yoon's formal arrest. Mr. Yoon's lawyers said he spoke for about 40 minutes to the judge during the nearly five-hour closed-door hearing.

Expected decision

The judge is expected to make a decision by late Saturday or early Sunday.

If Mr. Yoon is arrested, investigators can extend his detention to 20 days, during which they will transfer the case to public prosecutors for indictment. If the court rejects the investigators' request, Mr. Yoon will be released and return to his residence.

THE HINDU GROUP

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'Music and spirituality can't be separated'

Music cannot be seperated from spirituality, violin maestro L. Subramaniam said at *The Hindu* Lit for Life 2025. Among the compositions of the great Trinity of Carnatic music, all are based on praise of some god, Mr. Subramaniam, the creator of the Global Fusion concept and the Lakshminarayana Global Music

L. Subramaniam also spoke about his book *Raga Harmony*. M. SRINATH

Festival, said in a conversation with journalist and arts entrepreneur Akhila Krishnamurthy.

'Modern poetry put humans in place of god'

Feelings of angst, dread, and alienation have found a distinct voice in modernist Tamil poetry, as in the literature of other languages, poet Perundevi said in conversation with Bogan Sankar on 'How modern is modern Tamil poetry' at *The Hindu* Lit for Life on Saturday. Mr. Sankar, who felt that *Thanipadalkal* could be the pioneer of modern Tamil poetry, said it had an audacity in content and expression. "Poetry need not express only lofty ideas and emotions. It is more individualistic, humanistic, and can even be about human weaknesses," said Mr. Sankar.

Perundevi, citing a poem of Gnanakoothan ('Mesai Natarajar'), explained how the human subject has increasingly replaced the locus of god, who became either absent or was reduced to a mere object.

Perundevi in conversation with Bogan Sankar. M . SRINATH

The Hindu Lit for Life 2025 streaming live

Literature enthusiasts can now tune in to *The Hindu* Lit for Life 2025 from the comfort of their homes anywhere in the world. The much-awaited festival, celebrating literature, arts, and culture, is being livestreamed on YouTube. On January 19, sessions will begin at 9.45 a.m and go on till 7.40 p.m. The sessions being held at the Sir

Mutha Concert Hall are at newsth.live/LFL2025MHLS. Discussions at *The Hindu* Pavilion can be viewed at newsth.live/LFL2025TPLS

Reading made Abraham Verghese a doctor and an 'accidental' writer

'There is no way you can experience everything in the world, but through the medium of novels you can live several different lifetimes. The only instrument that can stop time is the novel' says the physician-turned writer; he urges everyone to keep a journal to understand what one thinks

Sudipta Datta

Birth of an author: Abraham Verghese speaks on 'Writing as a form of self-discovery'. R. RAGU

What was the moment that moved a renowned physician to become a writer? For the first session of *The Hindu* Lit for Life 2025, Abraham Verghese, author of best-selling novels such as *The Covenant of Water, Cutting for Stone, and The Tennis Partner*, and a groundbreaking memoir, *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story*, elaborated on the power of words to convey the human condition.

In a talk, 'Writing as a form of self-discovery', sprinkled with anecdotes, references to favourite books, characters and quotes, Dr. Verghese began by saying he is very much an accidental writer and that he achieved the pinnacle of his ambition when he became a doctor.

In 50-odd minutes, he explained how he came to be a doctor and a writer, some of the lessons learnt along the way, and the journey from India to Ethiopia to the U.S. "I am a big believer in how geography shapes one's destiny," he said.

Love for reading

Pointing out that the only thing going for him was that he loved to read, he mentioned some of his varied early reading influences, such as D.H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, Somerset Maugham's *Of Human Bondage*, and A.J. Cronin's *The Citadel*, and how each led him on to other discoveries, about his own capabilities of becoming a doctor and a writer. For example, he said a line from *Of Human Bondage* – "Philip saw humanity there in the rough, the artist's canvas, and he said to himself, 'This is something I can do.'" – when the protagonist visits a hospital ward hit him like a bolt of lightning. "That was my calling to medicine," underscoring the magic that can happen between the reader and the writer.

Dr. Verghese would go on to study medicine, first at Madras Medical College and then to Boston to specialise, and eventually find himself practising in Tennessee, wading into the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s. This led to the birth of his writer's voice.

He wrote a scientific article on the widespread and debilitating effects of AIDS on patients, which got a lot of attention, but he felt that the language of science did not begin to capture the heartache of the journey, did not begin to capture his own grief and tragic experience of the families. "And that was the moment I became a writer, to try and tell that story," he said.

In a powerful message to the young in the audience, exhorting them to read, Dr. Verghese said, "There is no way you can experience everything in the world but through the medium of novels you can live several different lifetimes. The only instrument that can stop time in the world is the novel."

Calling writing a collaborative venture, he said it was imperative to read, because stories provide "instructions for living, and we read in order to get those instructions." Dr. Verghese urged everyone to keep a journal and that he writes one "to understand what I am thinking."

INBRIEF

Sex education must start young, says Leeza Mangaldas

Sex educator, author, and entrepreneur Leeza Mangaldas during her session with filmmaker Latha Menon shared her enthusiasm about speaking on the topic of sex in a public setting, and pointed out that the shame that comes with even uttering the word is built within people from a young age. According to her, sex education needs to begin at a young age. "When you tell your children falsehoods because you are uncomfortable with providing the answer, your child's sense of discernment is going to be impacted," she said. She called for age appropriate language to educate children.

Sriram, Narayanan inspect audacious forms of devotion

Historian V. Sriram and Carnatic singer Ashwath Narayanan took the audience at *The Hindu* Lit for Life through the fearless expressions of *Ninda Stuti*, where saints and poets mock, provoke, and even accuse their gods to forge an intimate connection. Devotion, in its most unrestrained form, can be as audacious as it is heartfelt. Mr. Sriram highlighted how composers of the past had the liberty to write what they wanted to. This daring tradition endures, inspiring modern expressions, and showing that devotion, at its core, is a deeply personal relationship – one that allows for jest, while rooted in unwavering love.

Prajakta Koli talks on tropes of romance, her debut book

Content creator, YouTuber, actor, and recently turned author Prajakta Koli dons multiple hats. In conversation with Rosella Stephen, Senior Associate Editor, *The Hindu*, at Lit For Life on Saturday, she spoke about how it has been for her to try different avenues and about diversification. Ms. Koli said her book, *Too Good To Be True,* is an extremely ordinary telling of a story about two people, who, in her opinion are beautiful. She said that there was no right idea to start off than right away. "If you are starting off, you might feel like you have to wait for the right idea and right experience... But you don't. There is no way of knowing what the perfect time or idea is going to be. If you want to start, start now," Ms. Koli said.

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I am not entirely against Indianism, don't go correcting people: Tharoor

Sanjana Ganesh
CHENNAI

Shashi Tharoor in conversation with L.V. Navaneeth. R. RAGU

"I don't go around correcting people's English as people famously think," said writer-politician Shashi Tharoor as he discussed etymology, Indianism, creative insults by writers, and his tryst with trolls, and memes with the Chief Executive Officer of The Hindu, L.V. Navaneeth, at the session titled "A wonderland of words", named after his book.

Mr. Tharoor had tied his tryst with words to his father Chandran, who often challenged him with word games. His father had back then created a nascent version of *The New York Times* word game Wordle.

"My father was a self-taught man from a village in Kerala where the standard of the [English] language was not too great. He read and subsequently fell in love [with English]. It is this love that is passed down to us. My father had a great zeal for life. When I was young, I was happy to escape into a book and ignore the world. He shook me out of it," he said.

The author went on to speak about words that have made it to common Indian parlance including 'non-veg', 'wheatish complexion' and 'passed out'.

He said that Indians often made the mistake of using the word 'until' incorrectly.

He finally added that he was a proponent of the usage of the word 'prepone' as 'advance' seemed alien. "People are often surprised to know that I am not entirely against Indianism," he said.

He added that he invented the word 'Atmami' – a portmanteau of the Sanskrit 'Atma' meaning soul and the French 'Ami' meaning friend to mean soulmate or kindred spirit, at the Pune Literature Festival earlier, and hoped that the word could be used more often.

Without Voldemort, Harry Potter is just having a lovely day, says Walliams

Gowri S.
CHENNAI

David Walliams during his special session for children. R. RAVINDRAN

In his very first literary fest in India, popular children's author and comedian David Walliams began with a loud proclamation to an audience filled with children: "I am here to talk about my favourite subject – Me!"

This very inflated sense of self remained a running joke through a delightfully interactive session at *The Hindu* Lit for Life, peppered with animated readings and hilarious audience interactions.

"We all feel different in one way or the other and I want to say this to you kids out there, difference is your superpower. Never be afraid of that," he said.

Mr. Walliams's journey writing children's books began with the title *The Boy in the Dress*. From when he made his "world debut" on stage in the 1980s to when his sister dressed him in elaborate wigs and beautiful dresses, he recalled instances that proved as inspiration to his writing.

"One piece of advice I'll give you when you are writing your story – always think about the villains, because villains are very important. They often make the stories happen. Without Voldemort, Harry Potter is just having a lovely day at school!"

The Hindu launches *Surf & Dive* at lit fest

Shashi Tharoor launches *Surf & Dive* in the presence of Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu*; Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson, THGPPL; and L.V. Navaneeth, CEO, THGPPL. R. RAGU

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The books present meticulously curated long-form reads that offer context and a complete world view

Shashi Tharoor, MP and writer, launched *The Hindu*'s latest product, *Surf & Dive*, a print offering that gives readers in-depth coverage across a range of issues through long-form reads. Mr. Tharoor, along with The Hindu Group Chairperson Nirmala Lakshman, Editor Suresh Nambath and CEO L.V. Navaneeth released the first copy of *Surf & Dive* at *The Hindu* Lit for Life festival on Saturday.

The idea behind *Surf & Dive* was that in a world abuzz with digital distractions, there is a growing hunger for thoughtful analysis and trusted perspectives. Readers are seeking quality content that informs, inspires, and empowers. And at a time when information overload can overwhelm, *Surf & Dive* presents meticulously curated long-form reads that offer clarity, context, and a 360-degree perspective of the world.

Surf & Dive, according to Mr. Nambath, has been conceived of as a product that gives readers both breadth and depth as they seek information in a curated format. The subjects are varied: political, social and economic developments in India and the rest of the world, alongside science, technology, medicine and art and culture as well as sports.

The writers are subject experts who provide a deep dive into issues, cutting through the clutter with clarity of thought, in ways that can occupy the mind spaces of readers.

To be published twice a month – 24 books planned each year – each book invites you to 'surf' through a range of significant topics and 'dive' deep into subjects that matter.

(Scan QR code to buy the book online)

‘Nothing lost, much gained with Tamil spirit of openness to diverse cultures’

Author-journalist Nirmala Lakshman speaks of her book *The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community*, written over five years drawing from a wealth of historical information, painstaking research, keen observations of the community, and detailed interviews, to explore the identity of the community

Radhika Santhanam
CHENNAI

Indelible imprint: Nirmala Lakshman and Anita Ratnam speaking at *The Hindu* Lit for Life. R. RAGU

The Tamil Sangam poet Cittalai Cattanar wrote: “It looks like a skilled man’s work of art, this Jasmine country.”

In the Lit for Life session titled “This Jasmine Country”, Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson, The Hindu Group, discussed her latest book, *The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community*, with dancer and choreographer Anita Ratnam.

The book is part of a series brought out by the Aleph Book Company portraying various communities in India, and is edited by David Davidar.

Dr. Ratnam introduced the book about a community of 90 million people as a “reminder of the great and complex heritage called Tamilakam as well as a message to the Hindi heartland that South India is far from a monolith”.

The Tamil people have given India – and the world – scientists, revolutionaries, political leaders, scholars, artists, industrialists, sportspersons, and Nobel Prize winners. Spread across the world now, the Tamils have left an indelible mark in every field. But who are the Tamils? What is the Tamil *gunam* or identity?

Written over five years, Dr. Lakshman’s book draws from a wealth of historical information, painstaking research, her own keen observations of the community, and detailed interviews, to explore the history and culture of the Tamil people over centuries. She weaves in her own personal story into the narrative. As she was educated in English and had learned Hindi in school, Dr. Lakshman said her mother insisted that she have a Tamil teacher at home. “But we always had the consciousness of being Tamil,” she said.

A vast sweep

Dr. Lakshman begins her book from the Stone Age and travels quickly to the Sangam Age. If she were ever given the choice to live in another period, she said she would happily choose the Sangam period. “I have a passion for poetry. A.K. Ramanujan’s translations of Sangam poetry are not just about love and nature but also war and heroism. They also convey the harsh realities of life, which also resonate with the modern age,” she said.

Dr. Ratnam said Dr. Lakshman’s book had not just focused on the “so-called glorious periods of the Pallavas, Pandyas, Cholas, and Cheras”, but also brought out the “inequities, violence, and atrocities of those periods”.

She asked Dr. Lakshman about the thriving Jain community of the time. Speaking of her multiple visits to Sittanavasal, a small hamlet in Pudukkottai district of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Lakshman recalled the beauty of the faded paintings on the ceilings, much like in Ajanta, and said it transformed her idea of what Jainism was.

The book equally talks of a syncretic region. Dr. Ratnam said the book explored the multiple strands of faith: Vedic religion, the Bhakti movement, Jainism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. “Tamilakam was always a welcoming and accommodative region,” Dr. Lakshman said.

“There was a Tamil spirit of being open to diverse cultures and adapting to them, adopting them, and making them their own. Nothing was lost, but a lot was gained.”

As an example, she spoke of Muslim traders. “Some of the finest scholarship on Tamil literature came from Tamil Muslim scholars. They were Tamil by birth and Muslim by faith,” she said.

Dr. Lakshman said how there was a peaceful movement to Islam. “A lot of traders married women on the western coast. Subsequently, they settled along the coast.” For these portions, she said she was assisted by the academic and documentary filmmaker Kombai Anwar and scholar Raja Mohamad in Tiruchy.

She highlighted the journey of the Italian Jesuit priest Roberto de Nobili to India as an example of assimilation. “He realised that the best way was to not impose any particular way of thinking on the local people. He wore a dhoti and *vibhuti*,” she said.

The conversation was peppered with anecdotes, including the history of sambar. The ubiquitous dish with tamarind broth originated in the kitchens of the Thanjavur Maratha kingdom, Dr. Lakshman said. “Rulers wanted to learn and establish themselves in the south. The ruler, Sambhaji, was interested in cooking. So, it came from their courts.”

The speakers then discussed how Tamil Nadu played a major role in the nationalist movement, with Mahatma Gandhi visiting the region several times. “In fact, he started wearing his loin cloth in Madurai,” Dr. Lakshman said.

“The ideas of Gandhi caught fire and were conveyed by telegram and newspapers. The whole country was entranced. During that period, there were tales of heroism (such as of the fighter Veerapandiya Kattabomman), reform movements (such as widow remarriage and liberation of Devadasis), and tragedies all taking place simultaneously.”

At the same time, the Dravidian movement was born with the formation of the Justice Party, as “there was a consciousness that Brahmins had cornered education and jobs,” Dr. Lakshman said.

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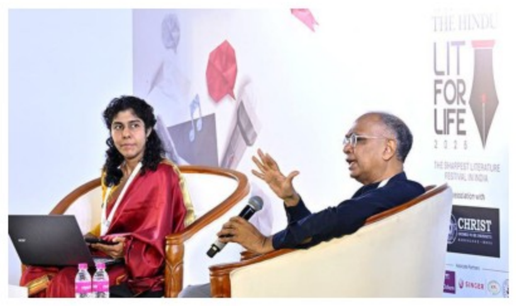
INBRIEF

‘A writer like Sujatha will come only once in 100 years’

Tamil writer Sujatha was unique, versatile, prolific, and thoroughly knowledgeable and people like him would only come once in 100 years, said filmmaker Rajiv Menon at *The Hindu* Lit for Life on Saturday. In conversation with film critic Baradwaj Rangan on the topic ‘Memories of a collaboration with writer Sujatha’, the filmmaker said: “Sujatha sir had both a sense of humour and in-depth knowledge of writing emotional and powerful dialogues for movies. He had the ability to merge four to six ideas in one scene... Any emotion set up in one scene would increase in the other and then it flowers in the next scene. That understanding of emotions is very important.” Mr. Menon also lauded Sujatha’s witty narrative and meticulous dialogue.

A reason to live and the recipe for happiness in life

Ikigai is the Japanese word for ‘a reason to live’. Spanish author Francesc Miralles describes it as being happily busy, to wake up every morning happily, and do what has value for a person and the world. Unravelling the mysteries of a happy life in a conversation with Vasudha Rai at *The Hindu* Lit for Life, Mr. Miralles – co-author of the one-stop book *Ikigai* with Hector Garcia – offered ways for readers to discover what truly matters to them, and to live lives filled with purpose and joy. “Physical and mental wellness starts from the mind. When you put too many things on the table of life, you get stressed and anxious. Doing less things with all attention and love puts you in a state of natural flow and makes you happy,” said the author, whose book has been translated into 70 languages.



Veganism, blood sport, and grey shades of characters

Authors Nandini Krishnan and Kannan Iyer, who are co-authoring the soon-to-be-released *Doom* series, spoke about the grey shades of their protagonists and villains – some of whom are eco-terrorists, 10th century kings, and rogue journalists – at *The Hindu* Lit for Life. They spoke on veganism, the use of fossil fuels, and protecting animals. Introducing the audience to their upcoming book, the duo explained the plot and personalities through diagrams, flowcharts, and cartoons. Ms. Nandini added that in the present day, animals that are being treated terribly and brutally murdered would rather become extinct instead of facing difficult ends. The two authors said they hoped to build a conversation around climate change while discussing the grey shades of people regarded as heroes and villains.

‘Too early to celebrate Gaza ceasefire deal’

Radhika Santhanam
CHENNAI

Stanly Johny is the author of *Original Sin: Israel Palestine & The Revenge Of Old West Asia*.

In the session “Original Sin: Israel, Palestine, and the revenge of West Asia”, journalist and author Stanly Johny and journalist Salil Tripathi discussed the situation in West Asia, Israel’s ceasefire in Gaza and its hostage release deal with the Hamas; and traced the history of the conflict.

Though the world is celebrating the ceasefire, Mr. Johny is cautious. “It is a ceasefire with three phases,” he said. “In the first stage, Hamas will release 33 hostages and the Israelis will release hundreds of Palestinian prisoners. They are focused on implementing the first phase. But the second and third stages, which involve release of more hostages and detainees and the complete withdrawal of Israel from Gaza, among other conditions, will be a lot more challenging. [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu is hell-bent on not pulling out of Gaza,” he said.

Mr. Johny recalled how the ceasefire came into place after more than 14 months of fighting. He said that Israel rejected the same deal months ago, but accepted it now largely due to three factors: “First, Israel believes that its position in West Asia is stronger after the fall of the Assad regime [in Syria] and also that Iran will be weakened. Second, the return of Donald Trump may have helped push the deal through. Third, Mr. Netanhayu is confident that his political standing has improved and that his government will survive,” he explained. Mr. Johny said the Israeli Prime Minister faced no immediate threat now. “He knows how to bounce back,” he added.

The author said that Hamas was not a spent force. “Hamas has recruited as many fighters as it has lost over 13 months. It has reinvented itself,” he said.

Mankind needs a mix of capitalism and socialism, says Jenny Erpenbeck

Sudipta Datta

Jenny Erpenbeck, left, and Michael Hofmann, centre, in conversation with Ira Mukhoty. R. RAGU

East Berlin-born writer Jenny Erpenbeck waited 30 years to write about the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the changes that it brought to a region – German Democratic Republic or East Germany – which ceased to exist as a country.

In a conversation with historian Ira Mukhoty, Ms. Erpenbeck and Michael Hofmann – who translated her International Booker Prize-winning novel *Kairos* into English – unravelled the reasons why it took so long to tell a story close to her heart.

During the session titled “Love in the time of uncertainty” at *The Hindu* Lit for Life, Ms. Erpenbeck said the issue was too close for comfort and that writing a novel about the transition that was taking place in her country needed some distance. “I was busy taking part in everything... facing new things and new rules; I was busy making a living,” she contended, pointing out that adjusting to the new system, which came as a surprise and a shock, took time.

She sets the story of *Kairos* a few years before the fall of the Berlin Wall, around a destructive love story between a 19-year-old Katerina and 50-something-old Hans.

Ms. Erpenbeck said that in a way, the division of Germany gave the structure to the book – two parts mirroring each other, the good and the bad, of a love story, and a wall dividing Berlin.

Mr. Hofmann, whose parents left East Germany in the 1950s, said he found the details outlined by Ms. Erpenbeck “endlessly fascinating”.

The translation, he said, also gave him an opportunity to bring to English readers an experience of post-war Germany which they are not aware of, where “everything seems to be in a flux”.

Asked why after reunification post 1989, there seemed to be a hurry to erase East German memories, Ms. Erpenbeck said the process to make a “united memory” after 40 years of a split history between East and West Germany is an ongoing process.

Ms. Erpenbeck said she wanted to narrate the story of East Germany in all its complexity, including its Fascist past, and tell readers a bit more about the country than what Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck’s 2006 film *The Lives of Others* conveyed.

Different perspectives

Different parts of the world have different experiences with Communism, said Ms. Mukhoty, asking how then should the fall of the Berlin Wall be viewed. Ms. Erpenbeck said there are still some discussions going on about the advantages of a society based on political freedom and a society based on social achievements and justice.

“I think what we should keep thinking about is if freedom needs to be connected with Capitalism. Freedom is a very important achievement – freedom of speech, and not being put into prison for your thoughts – but if it is connected to a state which has a steep gap between the poor and rich, the best freedom does not reach the people. If the poor has to think about how to make a living, they cannot make any use of the freedom of speech. I think a mixture of both systems, their advantages, is what we need for mankind,” she pointed out.

Romulus Whitaker, Janaki Lenin share a serpentine journey into the wilderness

Romulus Whitaker, centre, Janaki Lenin, left, and K.C. Vijaya Kumar.

Madhuvanti S. Krishnan
CHENNAI

“Which school would let a kid have a gun? Which school would allow a kid to have an eight-foot python living under his bed? Kodaikanal was incredible...” said Romulus Whitaker, renowned herpetologist and founder, the Madras Snake Park, the Andaman and Nicobar Environment Trust, and the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust.

In conversation with Janaki Lenin, co-author of his recent book, *Snakes, Drugs and Rock ’n’ Roll: My Early Years*, and K.C. Vijaya Kumar, Sports Editor, *The Hindu*, Mr. Whitaker spoke of his lifelong tryst with snakes and other reptiles, adventures with Tamil Nadu’s Irula tribes, and more.

Addressing Mr. Vijaya Kumar’s questions on the forest cover in India, the tussle over the ban on vehicular traffic at night in Bandipur and Mudumalai, and how he viewed the eco-space, Mr. Whitaker explained how there was a dichotomy where there were pressures in India for re-development whilst simultaneously a need to protect all the natural resources. “What a strange balance we have to meet! While we blame the government for a lot of the negative stuff going on, it is important to remember that besides the cheetah, India still has every one of the major predators we had a 1,000 years ago. The same cannot be said for the rest of the world. While we are doing well, we also have to be careful and keep the pressure on to save our resources and wildlife,” he said.

Ms. Lenin, shed light on how what she read as a youngster impacted her writings nature.

“While I was growing up... I was reading Enid Blyton and about European nature. What was great about Blyton was that she wrote about hares, rabbits, toads, and frogs – she captivated me in how she wrote about the small creatures like the birds that came to her feeder. Eventually, that is what drove me to write, and I wanted readers to have that relationship with what they see around them. They don’t see tigers, and lions, and big animals. It is the little things that would eventually help them connect with wildlife,” she said.

Brain teaser: A quiz under way at *The Hindu* Lit for Life venue in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Crowdpuller: Audience at a session at *The Hindu* Lit For Life event in Chennai on Saturday. R. RAVINDRAN

Eye for art: People visiting the Imprint exhibition at the Lit for Life event in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Selfie stop: Students visited the literature fest in large numbers. A group gets ready for a selfie at the venue. R. RAGU

From a frozen mass to climate crisis: mapping earth's journey

Historian Peter Frankopan speaking at *The Hindu* Lit for Life event in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Geetha Srimathi
CHENNAI

Historian Peter Frankopan began his talk at *The Hindu* Lit for Life by showing the image of a gray celestial body and asking the audience to identify it. "Moon," came the answer. But Mr. Frankopan, amused, said, "No, that's the frozen earth." And with that, he launched into his exploration of *The Earth Transformed*, taking the audience from a lifeless planet to the world that set the stage for civilisation.

Mr. Frankopan highlighted how natural forces, such as monsoons and mountains, have influenced trade, agriculture, and settlement patterns. He discussed the effect of the Rocky Mountains on rainfall in North America and the role of the Himalayas in shaping Indian rivers and farmlands. Such geographical features, shaped millions of years ago, continue to dictate global climate and human activity, he said.

Mr. Frankopan delved into the rise of early civilisations, explaining how geography and resources spurred the growth of cities near rivers such as the Indus, Nile and the Yellow River. These settlements developed sanitation systems, hierarchies and governance. He stressed how humans have always sought to manage natural challenges, with early societies relying on religion and rituals to explain and adapt to the environment.

Moving to the 20th century, decisions made in response to climatic and environmental challenges often exacerbated those challenges, he said. For instance, the Bengal famine of the 1940s saw grain being exported even as people starved. These decisions show the consequences of human choices during crises and remind us that understanding the broader context of climate and environmental changes is important, he added.

Drawing a connection between the rise of empires, such as the Cholas and the Vikings, and climate stability, Mr. Frankopan noted how the current climate crisis exacerbates social inequalities, particularly in regions such as South Asia, where air quality and water scarcity are severe.

Linking the past to the present, Mr. Frankopan reflected on how climate change and resource distribution remain central to global challenges. He said that the work done today, from addressing air quality in cities such as Chennai to responding to climate change globally, can set the stage for a more sustainable future.

The renewable energy transition, if managed correctly, could help us stay within ecological limits, as our current trajectory could lead to dire consequences.

"It's about changing the structure of the world around us, trying to improve where we are, trying to live within our ecological limits rather than push them too far," he said.

A survivor's crusade to break the stigma surrounding sexual violence

Trafficking is worst form of sex crime, says Sunitha Krishnan and calls upon people to fight scourge; she says people's attitude is her biggest challenge and stresses the need for unconditional acceptance; it's important to differentiate people from the problem and it requires a daily fight, she adds

Soma Basu
CHENNAI

Even as the session with Sunitha Krishnan, survivor, crusader, and fighter against sex trafficking, was on at The Pavilion on Saturday at *The Hindu* Lit for Life, the court verdict in the R.G. Kar case came in holding Sanjoy Roy guilty of rape and murder. "This is one case of speedy justice, but there are billions of cases of sex crimes that don't even reach the chargesheet stage," said Ms. Krishnan, who has positively helped change the lives of 27,500 women and young girls forced into sex work.

Fighting on: Activist Sunitha Krishnan (right) in conversation with writer Swarna Rajagopalan during the *The Hindu* Lit for Life event in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

In conversation with writer and scholar Swarna Rajagopalan, she talked about what it takes to fight for others. Gang-raped 37 years ago at the age of 15, Ms. Krishnan, who turned women's rights advocate, said the biggest challenge she faced in her work was the attitude of people. "People do not miss a chance or forget to remind you where you come from. One of my biggest pain is to be constantly identified as a rape survivor and not the work I do. Every survivor needs unconditional acceptance," she said and called upon the audience to involve in citizen engagement.

Every individual needs to understand what a victim requires to come back to the mainstream of healing and recovery. Prostitution is defined by law as commercial sexual exploitation. But confusion is created by combining prostitution, sex work, and sex trafficking which are components of parallel struggles. "Each is a set of different people with different stories and trafficking of a person is the worst form of sex crime; it is an organised crime and the fastest growing criminal enterprise," she said.

Ms. Krishnan pointed out that an enabling environment needs to be built to help the victims of sex trafficking. "It is important to differentiate the people from the problem and it requires a daily fight against the attitude that a woman's honour is located in her vagina," she said.

Ms. Krishnan said that pornography was the biggest contributor to sex trafficking and if everybody put out a social message daily condemning it or at least talk to one person a day engaged in pornography, it would change the world.

"You do not necessarily have to be an activist but understand the fundamental nuances of the sex business and the constrained choices women are compelled to make. Lots of bodies, minds, and souls are crushed and beaten daily," said Ms. Krishnan, whose memoir *I am What I am* is her personal story of grit and determination having been sexually assaulted.

But, she said she openly speaks about her experiences to break the stigma surrounding sexual violence and to empower other survivors.

'Characters from historical fiction should not be taken out of context'

N. Sai Charan
CHENNAI

A. Vennila, writer, poet and novelist, has said that characters from historical fiction should not be taken out of context to form the basis of writing authentic history.

She was in conversation with Kavitha Muralidharan, senior journalist, on the topic "People's histories: creative literary approaches", at *The Hindu* Lit for Life on Saturday.

Writing stories: Writer A. Vennila along with senior journalist Kavitha Muralidharan in Chennai on Saturday. M. SRINATH

Ms. Vennila cited the example of Kuyili, the woman who carried out a suicide attack on a British armoury, ensuring victory to Rani Velu Nachiyar of Sivaganga. The character was created by author K. Jeeva Barathi, who wrote a novel on Velu Nachiyar. However, Kuyili has now become an historical figure and has a place in the memorial to Velu Nachiyar, Ms. Vennila said while explaining how historical fiction should not be considered history.

She shared her experience of writing *Gangapuram* (her first novel describing societal structures that existed during the Chola period), *Chaalampuri* (her second novel on the lives of grassroots workers against the backdrop of the Dravidian party's transition from the Dravidar Kazhagam to electoral politics) and *Neerathikaram* (her latest novel on struggles of people involved in the construction of the Mullaperiyar Dam).

"There are several challenges in writing historical fiction. The writer should bring in visual elements establishing the period of the plot. It is like the job of an art director in movies. For *Neerathikaram*, I had travelled quite extensively to several places in the Cumbum Valley and also to London to get authentic information on John Pennycuick [the architect of Mullaperiyar dam]," she said.

Citing the example of Vanthiyathevan and Nandini, characters in the novel *Ponniyin Selvan* by Kalki, Ms. Vennila said, "Though there were fictional elements in these characters, the author did not push beyond reality and history. Likewise, a character from historical fiction should not be picked up out of context and form the basis for writing authentic history... Pennycuick should be celebrated for his actual contributions in playing a pivotal role in construction of the Mullaperiyar dam. Neerathikaram was an attempt to demystify several myths about Pennycuick," she said.

Need for revisiting history of anti-caste cultural assertion

Looking back: Historian Stalin Rajangam with *Neelam* editor Vasuki Bhaskar in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

B. Kolappan
CHENNAI

Writer and historian Stalin Rajangam said though Dalit politics and culture could sail together, political compulsions and electoral politics have denied a space for Dalit culture.

"Even those who can acquire a space for Dalit culture in politics are not allowed to do so because it could embarrass the alliance partners," he said while interacting with Vasuki Bhaskar, Editor, *Neelam*, on "Revisiting the history of anti-caste cultural assertion" at *The Hindu* Lit For Life on Saturday.

Mr. Rajangam said even though culture was an integral part of politics, even those who were involved in anti-caste crusades had failed to accommodate Dalit culture. Pointing out that there was negative projection and humiliation of Dalits and their culture which had resulted in creating an opinion that "Dalits lack culture or they suffer from paucity of culture", he said on the contrary, Dalits had the cultural capital.

"But the anti-caste crusade in the last decades had negatively viewed Dalit culture or its various aspects," he said and drew the attention to the colonial records on the space accorded to Dalits in Mariamman, Ekathamman and Pidariamman temples in Chennai.

Stressing the need for working in the cultural space, Vasuki Bhaskar spoke about the advice given by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's father to the Constitution architect to study the Mahabharata and Ramayana.

"When Ambedkar questioned the need for reading the works full of irrational beliefs, his father had reminded him that though Valmiki, the author of the Ramayana, was a tribal, he had received wider acceptance and it could act as an impetus to Ambekdar's thinking," he said.

He also spoke in favour of Dalits creating a counter path while adopting the policy of "inversion and reversion" towards others.

Beauty of human beings is in their vulnerability: Leander

Nihit Sachdeva
CHENNAI

Towards the end of a long first day of *The Hindu* Lit for Life, the Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rao Concert Hall was still packed for the final session. Leander Paes, India's most-decorated tennis star, was in the house.

After a short video featuring some of the greatest moments of his career – from the Olympic bronze at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta to multiple Grand Slam wins – the conversation began with Mr. Paes becoming the first Asian man to be inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in the player category. In the session moderated by Suresh Balakrishna, Chief Revenue Officer of The Hindu Group, the 51-year-old star regaled the audience with his wit and humour. He had a lump in his throat when he recalled the sacrifices his parents, friends, and he himself had made.

Tennis legend Leander Paes in conversation with Suresh Balakrishna in Chennai on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Sharing his experience of playing with Martina Navratilova and Martina Hingis – with whom he won two and four Majors in mixed doubles, respectively – Mr. Paes gave a life lesson in leadership. "Martina Navratilova is a born leader. When we would go out into a match and the coin toss would be done, she would always want to choose whether to serve or receive," said Mr. Paes. Ms. Hingis, who had formed a solid partnership with Mr. Paes during World Team Tennis, was not sure about their pairing for the Grand Slams. "She said, 'What if we lose? What if I am not ready and look bad on the court and the men hit harder,'" he recalled.

But Mr. Paes said the "beauty of human beings is in their vulnerability and the beauty of a partner is in how you protect your partner's vulnerability". The Paes-Hingis pair clicked and clinched all four Majors in 18 months.

AVAILABLE

Rohit confirms he will play in Ranji match against Jammu & Kashmir

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Rohit Sharma has confirmed that he will play in Mumbai's Ranji Trophy clash against Jammu & Kashmir in Mumbai from January 23. Rohit has thus decided to lead by example in adherence with the new BCCI policy of making domestic cricket mandatory for players, unless advised otherwise by the medical professionals.

NECK SPRAIN

Kohli unavailable for Delhi's game against Saurashtra

After including Virat Kohli in Delhi's 22-member provisional squad on Friday for the Ranji Trophy game against Saurashtra in Rajkot, the DDCA officially announced an updated list on Saturday that omits the star batter. It is understood that Kohli, nursing a neck sprain, informed the BCCI about his unavailability.

SETTLED

Finding a spot for Karun in this team was difficult, says Agarkar

VIJAY SONEJI

Chief selector Ajit Agarkar admitted that the committee has taken note of Karun Nair's red-hot form in Vijay Hazare Trophy. "We did have a chat about him, there is no doubt about it. But finding a spot in this team is very difficult. Look at the guys who have been picked. All of them average in excess of mid-40s," Agarkar said.

SUPER SATURDAY

India men's and women's outfits make Kho Kho World Cup final

ANI

The Indian men's team defeated South Africa 62-42 to advance to the Kho Kho World Cup final in New Delhi on Saturday. India will face Nepal in the summit clash. Indian women also stormed to the title clash, beating South Africa 66-16. Here too, the hosts will face Nepal, which cruised past Uganda 89-18, in the final.

Bumrah, Shami included in Champions Trophy squad

Selection committee chairman Agarkar says they are waiting to hear about the former's fitness and when he is likely to be available; Hardik returns to ODIs; maiden call-up for Jaiswal; Siraj misses out

CRICKET

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Despite concerns over his fitness, Jasprit Bumrah – the backbone of India's bowling – was on Saturday included in India's squad for the Champions Trophy, starting on February 19. While Yashasvi Jaiswal has earned a maiden ODI call-up, Mohammed Shami and Kuldeep Yadav – bowlers who are also on a comeback trail following injury layoffs – have also been selected in the Rohit Sharma-led squad.

The team was picked by the selection committee, chaired by Ajit Agarkar, in the presence of captain Rohit Sharma at the BCCI headquarters here.

After a long meeting that lasted well over two hours, Agarkar announced the squad and said that Harshit Rana will be the additional player for the ODI series against England with Bumrah unlikely to be available at least for the first two ODIs.

Pace pack: Shami is back in the ODI squad while there are concerns over Bumrah's fitness. FILE PHOTO: K. R. DEEPAK

"With Bumrah, we are waiting to hear about his fitness and when he is likely to be available.

"At the moment I don't think he is likely to be fit for the first couple of games," Agarkar said in a media interaction, hoping that Bumrah will be fit in time.

"I know he was asked to offload for five weeks of bowling, which is early first week February, if I am not wrong. And we'll probably find out a bit more around that time what exactly and with regards to what his medical condition is. I am sure BCCI might just put something out from the physio itself.

"It's better it comes from the medical department than me trying to explain what exactly is wrong with him. But that's the time frame that we have been told. And hopefully, he is okay after that."

Match-fit?

Ever since he walked off the field on day two of the Sydney Test on January 4 due to a back injury, Bumrah has been advised rest.

It will be interesting to see if he is match fit in the 10-day window after his rest and recovery period gets over on February 8.

The Hindu understands that Nitish Reddy and Shivam Dube's names were discussed as possible backups for all-rounder Hardik Pandya, who returned to the ODI set-up since the 2023 ODI World Cup.

Kuldeep's return following a hernia surgery and Ravindra Jadeja's inclusion as the last name on the team sheet instead of Mohammed Siraj, a pacer, meant the selectors have preferred only three genuine pacers and four spinners in the squad.

Jaiswal, India's standout player in 2024, has been handed a maiden ODI call-up as a reserve opener.

Rohit referred to his selection over his "potential."

The squad: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Shubman Gill (Vice-capt.), Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, K.L. Rahul (wk), Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rishabh Pant (wk), Ravindra Jadeja. (Harshit Rana to be the additional player for the three ODIs against England.)

Rohit, Agarkar differ in views on BCCI's SOPs for national players

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Captain Rohit Sharma and selection committee chairman Ajit Agarkar had contradictory reactions to the recent circulation of modified standard operating procedures (SOPs) for India cricketers that have surfaced in the aftermath of India's disappointing season of Test cricket.

In a two-page document shared with cricketers last week, accessed by *The Hindu*, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had put out various curbs, including restricted stay of players' families on long tours and disallowing personal staff of players along with the squad.

Rationale

While Rohit snapped at a journalist when asked about the new policy, Agarkar explained the rationale behind it. "Who told you about these rules? Has it come from the official handle of (the) BCCI? Did it come officially?" Rohit asked.

> It's not a school, it's not a punishment
> – AGARKAR

The 10-point document states that non-adherence of the new rules may lead to sanctions, including ban from competing in the Indian Premier League.

However, Agarkar stressed the rules are primarily aimed at maintaining team unity.

"Every team has some rules in place. We have spoken about various things over the last few months, where we can improve as a team and get a bit closer as a team. We have seen in the last few months the need for some changes, more bonding in the team. It's not a school, it's not a punishment. It's just you have some rules and when you are playing for the national team, you just follow the rules. These are mature individuals.

"They are superstars in their own right in international sport. They know how to handle themselves," Agarkar said.

"But at the end of the day, you are eventually representing your country and there are certain things that you inherently follow as every team does.

"A lot of them have been in place, maybe we have spoken about it now and it has been put out but a lot of them have been in place in any case.

"You keep on refining it as you go along, eventually what suits the team, you want to try and do that."

Nunez. AP

Reds ride on Nunez double

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
LONDON

Substitute Darwin Nunez's stoppage-time double gave Liverpool a 2-0 win at Brentford on Saturday, as the Premier League leader left it late to record its first league win of 2025.

The results: Premier League: Newcastle 1 (Guimaraes 25) lost to Bournemouth 4 (Kluivert 6, 44, 90+2, Kerkez 90+6); Brentford 0 lost to Liverpool 2 (Nunez 90+1, 90+3); Leicester 0 lost to Fulham 2 (Smith Rowe 48, Traore 68); West Ham 0 lost to Crystal Palace 2 (Mateta 48, 89-pen).
LaLiga: Leganes 1 (Nastasic 49) Atletico Madrid 0
Bundesliga: Stuttgart 4 (Rouault 2, Demirovic 17, Woltemade 45+5-pen, Undav 80) bt SC Freiburg 0; Bayern Munich 3 (Goretzka 20, 62, Olise 39) bt Wolfsburg 2 (Amoura 24, 88) Bochum 3 (Boadu 48, 56, 61-pen) drew with RB Leipzig 3 (Orban 10, Nusa 13, Raum 21).
Serie A: Bologna 3 (Castro 22, Odgaard 34, Orsolini 69) bt Monza 1 (Maldini 4).
On Friday: Serie A: Roma 3 (Dovbyk 25, El Shaarawy 60, Leali 73-og) bt Genoa 1 (Masini 33).
Bundesliga: Eintracht Frankfurt 2 (Ekitike 18, Hojlund 90+2) bt Borussia Dortmund 0.

Satwik and Chirag go down tamely in semifinals

BADMINTON

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The Indian challenge at the India Open fizzled out with Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty losing 21-18, 21-14 in the semifinals against Malaysia's Sze Fei Goh and Nur Izzuddin on Saturday.

The World No. 9 Indians struggled all through to control not just the game but their own strokes as well. Despite a good start in the opening game to stay level on points and taking a 15-12 lead, the Indians erred and allowed their opponents to take charge. The second game was largely one-sided with the Malaysians dictating terms and the Indians playing catch-up. To make it worse, Satwik twisted his ankle at 13-14, admitting later it looked bad and will have to be checked out.

"I think we should have closed down in the first game but credit to them they were really good in the service situations, which we didn't really expect because probably we didn't prepare for it," Chirag said after the game. "We should have been a little more calm. We didn't really expect so many flicks going into the game, especially from 15-12 up in the first game."

Satwik added: "We started well but compared to previous matches, the shuttle was fast, whoever controlled it better got the points and they did it much better."

Dominant: Malaysia's Goh and Nur were just too good for Satwik and Chirag. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The Malaysians will now face Koreans Kim Won Ho and Seo Seung Jae, who upset fifth seeds Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik of Malaysia 22-20, 21-19.

In the singles last year's runner-up Cheuk Yiu Lee of Singapore won 13-21, 21-10, 21-16 over Hong Yang Weng to reach his second consecutive final in the event while two-time champion Viktor Axelsen stayed on course to become only the second man to win the title thrice with a 17-21, 21-14, 21-15 victory against Indonesia's Jonatan Christie.

The results (semifinals): Men's singles: Cheuk Yiu Lee (Sgp) bt Hong Yang Weng (Chn) 13-21, 21-10, 21-16; Viktor Axelsen (Den) bt Jonatan Christie (Ina) 17-21, 21-14, 21-15; **Doubles:** Kim Won Ho & Seo Seung Jae (Kor) bt Aaron Chia & Soh Wooi Yik (Mas) 22-20, 21-19; Nur Izzuddin & Goh Sze Fei (Mas) bt Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty (Ind) 21-18, 21-14.
Women: Pornpawee Chochuwong (Tha) bt Tomoka Miyazaki (Jpn) 11-21, 24-22, 21-19; An Se Young (Kor) bt Gregoria Mariska Tunjung 21-19, 21-16; **Doubles:** Kim Hye Jeong & Kong Hee Yong (Kor) bt Pearly Tan & Thinaah Muralitharan (Mas) 21-18, 21-18; Arisa Igarashi & Ayako Sakuramoto (Jpn) bt Li Yi Jing & Luo Xu Min (Chn) 18-21, 21-13, 21-17.
Mixed doubles: Thom Gicquel & Delphine Delrue (Fra) bt Chen Tang Jie & Toh Ee Wei (Mas) 21-17, 21-15; Jiang Zhen Bang & Wei Ya Xin (Chn) bt Goh Soon Haut & Lai Shevon Jemie (Mas) 18-21, 21-19, 21-9.

Sinner, Swiatek into pre-quarters; Monfils, Svitolina pull off shock wins

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Agence France-Presse
MELBOURNE

Defending champion Jannik Sinner raced to victory at the Australian Open on Saturday to sweep into the last 16 as Iga Swiatek demolished Emma Raducanu.

Also into the second week is 38-year-old Gael Monfils after he stunned fourth seed Taylor Fritz – with the veteran's wife Elina Svitolina also enjoying a shock win immediately after on the same court.

American qualifier Learner Tien, 19, won in straight sets to extend his fairytale run on his debut in Melbourne.

Italian world No.1 Sinner dropped a set for the first time in 14 matches in the second round.

But there were no such wobble against the unseeded Marcos Giron as he sprinted home 6-3, 6-4, 6-2, slamming 35 winners and eight aces.

Awaiting him next is Danish 13th seed Holger Rune who prevailed over Serbian Miomir Kecmanovic in five sets.

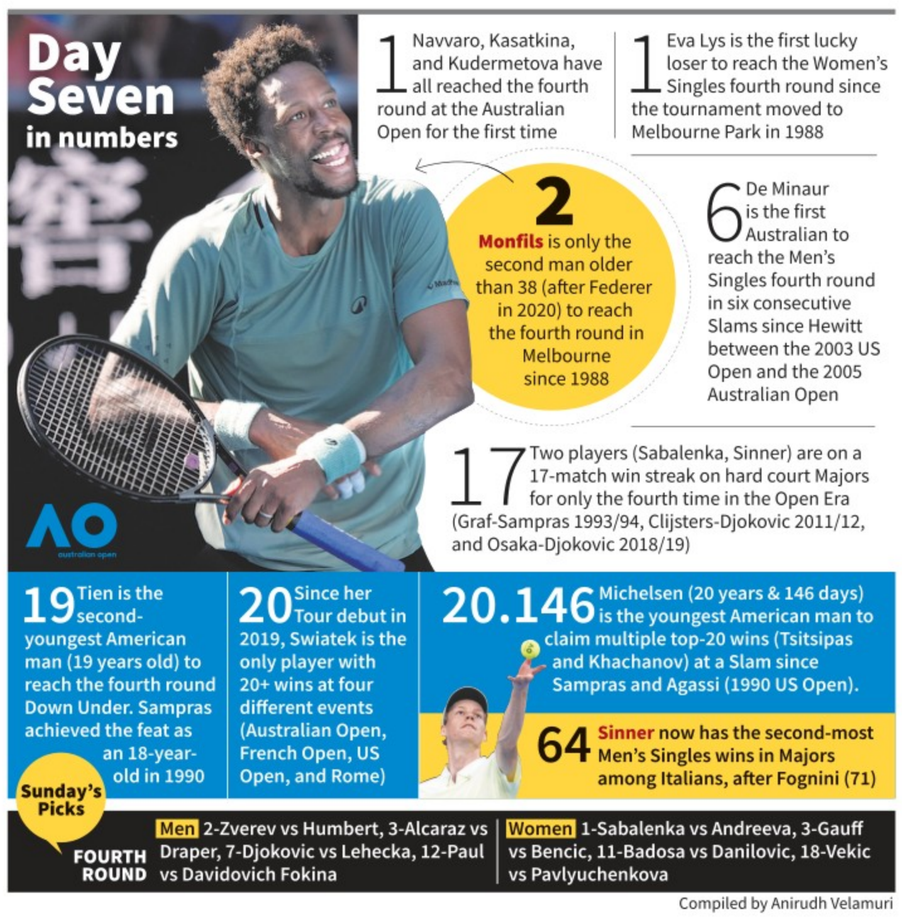
French showman Monfils rolled back the years to storm back and upset the American Fritz 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (1), 6-4.

The unseeded Monfils, who hit a career-high ranking of six in 2016 but is now 41st, is enjoying a late-career flourish.

He is married to Ukrainian Svitolina, who emulated his giant-killing efforts when she defeated world No.4 Jasmine Paolini 2-6, 6-4, 6-0.

Tien became the youngest man to reach the fourth round since Rafael Nadal in 2005 when he overcame injured Frenchman Corentin Moutet.

The gifted teenager emerged a 7-6(10), 6-3, 6-3 victor with Moutet collapsing clutching his leg in the third set before gingerly carrying on.


Day Seven in numbers
1 Navvaro, Kasatkina, and Kudermetova have all reached the fourth round at the Australian Open for the first time
1 Eva Lys is the first lucky loser to reach the Women's Singles fourth round since the tournament moved to Melbourne Park in 1988
2 Monfils is only the second man older than 38 (after Federer in 2020) to reach the fourth round in Melbourne since 1988
6 De Minaur is the first Australian to reach the Men's Singles fourth round in six consecutive Slams since Hewitt between the 2003 US Open and the 2005 Australian Open
17 Two players (Sabalenka, Sinner) are on a 17-match win streak on hard court Majors for only the fourth time in the Open Era (Graf-Sampras 1993/94, Clijsters-Djokovic 2011/12, and Osaka-Djokovic 2018/19)
19 Tien is the second-youngest American man (19 years old) to reach the fourth round Down Under. Sampras achieved the feat as an 18-year-old in 1990
20 Since her Tour debut in 2019, Swiatek is the only player with 20+ wins at four different events (Australian Open, French Open, US Open, and Rome)
20.146 Michelsen (20 years & 146 days) is the youngest American man to claim multiple top-20 wins (Tsitsipas and Khachanov) at a Slam since Sampras and Agassi (1990 US Open).
64 Sinner now has the second-most Men's Singles wins in Majors among Italians, after Fognini (71)
Sunday's Picks
FOURTH ROUND
Men 2-Zverev vs Humbert, 3-Alcaraz vs Draper, 7-Djokovic vs Lehecka, 12-Paul vs Davidovich Fokina
Women 1-Sabalenka vs Andreeva, 3-Gauff vs Bencic, 11-Badosa vs Danilovic, 18-Vekic vs Pavlyuchenkova

Compiled by Anirudh Velamuri

TOP RESULTS

Men: Third round: Michelsen (USA) bt 19-Khachanov (Rus) 6-3, 7-6(5), 6-2; Monfils (Fra) bt 4-Fritz (USA) 3-6, 7-5, 7-6(1), 6-4; 8-de Minaur (Aus) bt 31-Cerundolo (Arg) 5-7, 7-6(3), 6-3, 6-3; Tien (USA) bt Moutet (Fra) 7-6(10), 6-3, 6-3; Sonego (Ita) bt Marozsan (Hun) 6-7(3), 7-6(6), 6-1, 6-2.

21-Shelton (USA) bt 16-Musetti (Ita) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6(5); 1-Sinner (Ita) bt Giron (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2; 13-Rune (Den) bt Kecmanovic (Srb) 6-7(5), 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles: Second round: Borges & Cabral (Por) bt Reyes-Varela (Mex) & Balaji (Ind) 7-6(1), 4-6, 6-3.

Women: Third round: 2-Swiatek (Pol) bt Raducanu (GBr) 6-1, 6-0; 8-Navarro (USA) bt Jabeur (Tun) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; 9-Kasatkina (Rus) bt 24-Putintseva (Kaz) 7-5, 6-1; Lys (Ger) bt Cristian (Rou) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; 6-Rybakina (Kaz) bt 32-Yastremska (Ukr) 6-3, 6-4.

Kudermetova (Rus) bt 15-Haddad Maia (Bra) 6-4, 6-2; 28-Svitolina (Ukr) bt 4-Paolini (Ita) 2-6, 6-4, 6-0; 19-Keys (USA) bt 10-Collins (USA) 6-4, 6-4.

INBRIEF

Noman and Sajid put Pakistan in the ascendancy

Spinners Noman Ali, *in pic.*, and Sajid Khan guided Pakistan to a strong position against the West Indies on the second day of the opening Test in Multan on Saturday.

The scores: Pakistan 230 in 68.5 overs (Saud 84, Rizwan 71) & 109/3 in 31 overs vs West Indies 137 in 25.2 overs (Noman 5/39, Sajid 4/65).

Bangladesh, SA, Australia post wins in U-19 Women's T20 WC

Bangladesh, South Africa and Australia posted wins on the opening day of the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday.

The scores: Scotland 48 in 15.1 overs (Bray 3/1, Larosa 3/7) lost to Australia 49/1 in 6.4 overs.
Nepal 52 in 18.2 overs lost to Bangladesh 53/5 in 13.2 overs.
South Africa 91/7 in 11 overs (Botha 32, Lambat 3/6) beat New Zealand 69/5 in 11 overs (McLeod 34). (Match reduced to 11 overs).

Man United and Scotland great Law passes away

Manchester United and Scotland great Denis Law has died at the age of 84. Law, known at Old Trafford as "The King", was a member of United's European Cup-winning side under Matt Busby in 1968, when it became the first English club to lift the trophy, though he was injured for the final. Capped 55 times by Scotland, he remains his country's joint all-time leading scorer with 30 goals alongside Kenny Dalglish and is the only Scottish player to win the Ballon d'Or (1964).

LIVE TELECAST

Women's U-19 T20 World Cup: Hotstar, 8 a.m. & 12 p.m.
Pakistan vs West Indies: 1st Test, day 3, FanCode, 10 a.m.
Badminton: Indian Open, FanCode, 12 p.m.
I-League: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1 & 3.30 p.m.
Australian Open: Evening session, Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1.30 p.m.
Serie A: gxr.world, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday)
Hockey: HIL, DD Sports, Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6 & 8.15 p.m.
LaLiga: gxr.world, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 & 10 p.m.
Kho-Kho World Cup: (final), SS Select 1 & Hotstar, 8.15 p.m.

Smaran powers Karnataka to victory

The southpaw's stand with Shrijith sets up a huge score; Vidarbha batter Shorey's third consecutive hundred goes in vain; Karun's hot streak ends

HAZARE TROPHY

Dhruva Prasad
VADODARA

Making it count: The Karnataka team halted Vidarbha's winning streak. VIJAY SONEJI

Karnataka's resolve to invest in the future ahead of the season paid rich dividends as a young brigade, led by southpaw R. Smaran, stepped up to beat Vidarbha by 36 runs in a high-scoring final of the Vijay Hazare Trophy at the Kotambi Stadium here on Saturday.

Dhruv Shorey's third century on the bounce and Harsh Dubey's late fireworks were not enough in the face of a 349-run target as Karnataka claimed a record-equalling fifth title, going level with Tamil Nadu.

Vidarbha's unbeaten run while chasing in this tournament ended, as did Karun Nair's hot streak and his hopes of redemption.

Earlier, crisis management duties were on Smaran's young shoulders again, and the 21-year-old handled them with composure.

K.V. Aneesh and skipper Mayank Agarwal had perished in identical fashion, checking a drive straight to the cover fielder, and Devdutt Paddikal's prolific run was snapped early on. With Karnataka tottering at 67 for three, Smaran and Krishnan Shrijith joined hands for a 160-run partnership off 137 balls.

Armed with a high backlift, Smaran broke the shackles with a forceful drive down the ground. The left-handed duo cranked through the gears after the halfway mark, and found their bearings against offies Yash Kadam and Karun Nair, who conceded 43 runs in the six overs they bowled in tandem.

On the attack

Smaran was strong both off the front and back foot, and it wasn't long before he pounced on Nair with a slog sweep and a pull, scoring 10 runs off two freebies.

Shrijith pressed forward with nimble feet to drive in the 'V' and cut with panache square of the wicket to leave the bowlers with little margin for error.

After Shrijith fell, Abhinav Manohar was the aggressor in a 63-ball century stand with Smaran, who reached his second ton off 89 balls. Manohar laid into Vidarbha's pace trio. The short stuff was pulled or swatted away with disdain, and any correction in length was driven over the in-field.

The Manohar-led carnage yielded 79 runs off the last six overs, eliciting cheers from the sparsely populated stands and setting up an uphill battle for Vidarbha.

The scores: Karnataka 348/6 in 50 overs (R. Smaran 101, Krishnan Shrijith 78, Abhinav Manohar 79) bt Vidarbha 312 in 48.2 overs (Dhruv Shorey 110, Harsh Dubey 63, V. Koushik 3/47, Prasidh Krishna 3/84, Abhilash Shetty 3/58).

Toofans blow away Dragons; Rudras edge Gonasika

HIL

Santadeep Dey
RANCHI

Letting it rip: Action from the Toofans-Dragons game. PTI

The much-anticipated crossover event finally went underway as four men's teams from the Hockey India League were in action on Saturday at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Stadium here.

Hyderabad Toofans, coming on the back of a three-match winning run, stunned Tamil Nadu Dragons 4-0 in the Southern Derby first, while UP Rudras prevailed over Team Gonasika 1-0 in the second match.

Although the Dragons have been the most successful team in converting penalty corners (PCs), the Toofans got the first bite of the cherry after a cagey first quarter when the talismanic Gonzalo Peillat unleashed a bullet into the roof of the net.

After a lengthy stick check, a Toofans goal was disallowed 20 seconds into the second half. But the side couldn't be held back for long as Arthur De Sloover got on the scoresheet with a rip-roaring drive after a failed PC attempt was recycled by Nilakanta Sharma and Peillat.

Tim Brand extended the lead, scoring his fourth field goal this season by guiding a cross from Jacob Anderson past the goalkeeper. Peillat scored the final goal with a sizzling finish from another PC to become the top goalscorer for his team.

In the other contest, shot-stopper James Mazarelo repelled the first attempt on goal from a PC by Gonasika's Victor Charlet merely 16 seconds from pushback.

However, the Rudras drew first blood with skipper Hardik Singh converting a penalty stroke after Manpreet Singh took down Sam Ward in front of goal.

The results: Hyderabad Toofans 4 (Peillat 21, 48, De Sloover 31, Brand 33) bt Tamil Nadu Dragons 0; UP Rudras 1 (Hardik 15) bt Team Gonasika 0.

Chhetri helps Bengaluru hold Hyderabad in ISL

Sports Bureau
HYDERABAD

On a roll: Chhetri found the target for the 10th time this season.

Former champions Hyderabad FC and Bengaluru FC played out a 1-1 draw in their Indian Super League (ISL) match at the GMC Balayogi Stadium here on Saturday.

Devendra Murgaonkar's goal in the 21st minute gave the home team an early lead. But, the 40-year-old Sunil Chhetri scored the equaliser in the 78th minute to touch the 10-goal mark for the second time in his ISL career.

It was BFC, which controlled the proceedings for most of the game, but had only a solitary shot on target which Chhetri converted to get the team a point.

Ramhlunchhunga essayed a pin-point cross for Murgaonkar who was positioned at the centre of the 18-yard box and headed the ball into the bottom right corner to give the home side the lead.

BFC's Edgar Mendez settled seamlessly into the game, latching onto a cross by Naorem Mahesh Singh in the 51st minute.

Despite the close distance between him and the goal, the forward's header ended up a bit too high.

The equaliser came thanks to a template that has yielded BFC high returns this season. Williams' second-half introduction delivered just what the Blues needed as he chipped in a precise cross for Chhetri in the 78th minute in the middle of the box.

The forward met the delivery and nodded it into the bottom right corner. This was the fourth instance this season when Williams assisted a Chhetri goal.

The results: Hyderabad FC 1 (Murgaonkar 21) drew with Bengaluru FC 1 (Chhetri 78).
At Kochi: Kerala Blasters FC 0 drew with NorthEast United FC 0.

Duke Of Tuscany maintains his winning form

RACING

HYDERABAD: The four-year-old gelding Duke Of Tuscany, who won the Golconda 2000 Guineas in his last start, maintains his winning form and should win the HPSL Golconda Derby Stakes (Gr.1), the main attraction of Sunday's (Jan. 19) races.

1 ROYAL CALCUTTA TURF CLUB CUP (Div. II) (1,100m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 12.10 p.m.: 1. Country's Dictator (1) H.M. Akshay 56, 2. Racing Ruler (7) G. Naresh 56, 3. Victory Run (2) Ashad Asbar 56, 4. Ashwa Changez (3) Gaurav 54.5, 5. Double Bubble (8) Kuldeep Sr. 54.5, 6. Emerald Touch (4) Neeraj 54.5, 7. French Lady (6) Md. Ismail 54.5 and 8. Moonlite Rose (5) Saqlain 54.5.
1. EMERALD TOUCH, 2. DOUBLE BUBBLE, 3. VICTORY RUN

2 TURF AUTHORITIES OF INDIA CUP (Div. II) (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II) – 12.40: 1. Encore (9) R.S. Jodha 60, 2. D Minchu (3) David Allan 59, 3. Adbhut (7) Vivek G 58, 4. One N Only (8) Kuldeep Sr. 57, 5. Delhi Heights (5) Mukesh 55.5, 6. Anzio (10) P. Sai K 55, 7. Tripurari (1) B. Nikhil 54, 8. Hurricane Bay (4) Saqlain 53.5, 9. Leather Back (6) Rafique Sk. 52.5 and 10. Pontefract (2) Afroz K 52.5.
1. D MINCHU, 2. ADBHUT, 3. HURRICANE BAY

3 ROYAL CALCUTTA TURF CLUB CUP (Div. I) (1,100m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 1.10: 1. Aquatone (2) Mohit 56, 2. Philodendron (4) Md. Ismail 56, 3. Royal Warrior (5) P. Sai K 56, 4. American Affair (6) H.M. Akshay 54.5, 5. Calabasas (1) P. Ajeeth K 54.5, 6. Dubai Touch (3) Neeraj 54.5, 7. Live Legend (7) Gaurav 54.5 and 8. Silver Screen (8) Md. Ekram 54.5.
1. DUBAI TOUCH, 2. CALABASAS, 3. AMERICAN AFFAIR

4 BANGALORE TURF CLUB CUP (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 1.45: 1. Romantic Grey (4) Vivek G 60, 2. Dali's Champion (1) Kuldeep Sr. 58.5, 3. Elegant Lady (8) Rafique Sk 57.5, 4. Perception (14) Md. Ismail 56.5, 5. Peanut (11) Mukesh 56, 6. Smart Boy (7) G. Naresh 56, 7. Iconic Star (2) P. Sai K 55, 8. Opera Queen (12) Santosh Raj 54.5, 9. Amboseli (13) Sandesh 54, 10. Cherish The Lady (6) Ajay K 53.5, 11. Glimmer Of Hope (3) Gaurav 53.5, 12. Hoping High (10) Mohit 53, 13. Mirzeta (5) Surya Prakash 53 and 14. Northern God (9) H.M. Akshay 53.
1. AMBOSELI, 2. ROMANTIC GREY, 3. DALI'S CHAMPION

5 MYSORE RACE CLUB CUP (1,400m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.15: 1. Hurricane Wave (13) Afroz K 60, 2. See My Attitude (7) Saqlain 60, 3. Planet Super (8) Kuldeep Sr. 59.5, 4. Fara (10) H.M. Akshay 59, 5. N R I Skypower (14) Santosh Raj 59, 6. Morning Mist (9) Deepak 57.5, 7. Bold Beauty (11) G. Naresh 57, 8. Caraxes (4) Ajay K 57, 9. Char Ek Char (3) Mohit 56.5, 10. Flashing Memories (5) R.S. Jodha 56, 11. Catchme If You Can (2) Mukesh 55.5, 12. Master Touch (6) Gaurav 52.5, 13. Battle On (12) P. Sai K 52 and 14. Blue Pantheress (1) P. Ajeeth K 52.
1. BLUE PANTHERESS, 2. HURRICANE WAVE, 3. SEE MY ATTITUDE

6 TURF AUTHORITIES OF INDIA CUP (Div. I) (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II) – 2.50: 1. Barbet (5) Mukesh 60, 2. Imperia (1) P. Ajeeth K 59.5, 3. Reigning Beauty (10) Saqlain 58.5, 4. Brooklyn Beauty (11) Mohit 58, 5. Uchchaihshravas (9) Neeraj 57, 6. Fly Tothe Stars (3) Trevor 55.5, 7. Armstrong (6) P. Sai K 53.5, 8. Pleasant Star (7) Akshay K 53.5, 9. Amyra (8) Md. Ekram 52.5, 10. N R I Sport (2) Santosh Raj 52.5 and 11. Runlikethewind (4) Afroz K 52.5.
1. UCHCHAIHSHRAVAS, 2. PLESANT STAR, 3. BARBET

7 MADRAS RACE CLUB CUP (1,600m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.25: 1. Oliver's Mount (1) Vivek G 60, 2. Trishul (4) Trevor 60, 3. Nonpariel (8) Akshay K 56.5, 4. Alpine Girl (10) Mohit 54.5, 5. Ampere's Touch (3) Gaurav 54.5, 6. Park Lane (2) Md. Ismail 54.5, 7. Clara (6) Suraj Narredu 53.5, 8. China Town (9) P. Ajeeth K 52.5, 9. Miracle Mary (7) Afroz K 51.5 and 10. Shah Of Iran (5) P. Sai K 51.5.
1. NONPARIEL, 2. CLARA, 3. TRISHUL

8 ROYAL WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB CUP (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 4.00: 1. High Reward (14) R.S. Jodha 60, 2. Gatiman (7) Mukesh 59, 3. Warwick (13) P. Ajeeth K 58, 4. Calistoga (4) Saqlain 57, 5. Newfound Glory (1) P. Sai K 55.5, 6. Arion One (9) Akshay K 54, 7. Worcester (2) Surya Prakash 54, 8. N R I Dheera (8) Kuldeep Sr. 52.5, 9. High Heels (11) Gaurav 52, 10. Rolls Royce (12) Md. Ekram 51.5, 11. Exclusive Black (6) Ajay K 51, 12. Anemoi (3) G. Naresh 50.5, 13. Assured Success (10) Santosh Raj 50.5 and 14. Linda (5) Afroz K 50.5.
1. GATIMAN, 2. CALISTOGA, 3. ARION ONE

9 HPSL GOLCONDA DERBY STAKES (GR. 1) (2,400m) (Terms), 4-y-o only – 4.35: 1. Dapper Look (6) Akshay K 57, 2. Duke Of Tuscany (2) Trevor 57, 3. Secret Saint (3) Sandesh 57, 4. Seeking Alpha (4) Vivek G 57, 5. Nyx (5) David Allan 55.5 and 6. White Pearl (1) Mukesh 55.5.
1. DUKE OF TUSCANY, 2. SEEKING ALPHA

10 DELHI RACE CLUB CUP (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III) – 5.10: 1. Balahaka (6) G. Naresh 61.5, 2. Rani Ruckus (8) Md. Ismail 61.5, 3. Sadiya (3) Deepak 61, 4. Exclusive Spark (7) Mohit 60, 5. Taaliyah (10) Mukesh 60, 6. Tupac (11) Surya Prakash 60, 7. Lucky Fiero (12) Rafique Sk. 59, 8. Anahita (2) Santosh Raj 58.5, 9. Talking Stick (9) Ajay K 58, 10. Deccan Ranger (5) Uday Kiran 57, 11. Silver Arrow (1) Gaurav 56 and 12. Blue Brigade (4) Kuldeep Sr. 53.
1. TAALIYAH. 2. SADIYA. 3. EXCLUSIVE SPARK
Day's Best: **D MINCHU**
Jackpot: (i) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, (ii) 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10.
Mini Jackpot: (i) 3, 4, 5 7 6, (ii) 7, 8, 9 & 10.
Treble: (i) 2, 3 & 4, (ii) 5, 6 & 7, (iii) 8, 9 & 10.
Tanala: All races.

Kalamitsi claims the R.W.I.T.C. Trophy

BENGALURU: S. Attaollahi trained Kalamitsi (Akshay Kumar up) won the R.W.I.T.C. Trophy (1,400m), the feature event of the races held here on Saturday (Jan 18).
The winner is owned by Mr. Solomon Benveniste, M/S. Deciding Factor LLP, Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd, Mr. Hemang D. Doctor & Mr. Lokesh Ahuja. Jockey Akshay Kumar won four races on the day.
THE RESULTS
1. ALAKNANDA PLATE (1,400M): LADY INVICTUS (Trevor) 1, My Solitaire (Jagadeesh) 2, Capri Girl (R. Pradeep) 3 and Benzema (Rayan) 4. 3-1/2, 4-1/2 and Shd. 1m 26.89s. Rs. 16 (w), 10, 14 and 58 (p), SHP: 25, THP: 120, FP: 33, Q: 18, Trinella: 464/429. Exacta: 1,128/276. Favourite: Lady Invictus.
Owner: Mr. M. Venkatesh. Trainer: S. Dominic.
2. TROMBAY PLATE (1,600M): DESERT KINGDOM (David Allan) 1, Michiko (Trevor) 2, Sea Blush (Vivek) 3 and Mystical Air (Shreyas S) 4. Nose, 1 and 1/2. 1m 38.94s. Rs. 14 (w), 10, 14 and 29 (p), SHP: 32, THP: 65, FP: 65, Q: 28, Trinella: 442/347, Exacta: 1,037/359. Favourite: Desert Kingdom.
Owners: Mr. Kersi H. Vachha, Mr. P.J. Vazifdar, Mr. M. Rishad, Mrs. P.J. Vazifdar & Mr. S.R. Sanas'. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.
3. INDRAVATI STAKES (DIV. II), (1,400M): HABIBTI (Sandesh) 1, Knotty Scotty (Trevor) 2, Supercharge (Ashhad Asbar) 3 and Turkoman (Darshan) 4. 1/2, 1-3/4 and 3. 1m 26.29s. Rs. 24 (w), 12, 10 and 12 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 31, FP: 60, Q: 25, Trinella: 79/40, Exacta: 300/237. Favourite: Knotty Scotty.
Owner: Vinayaka Breeders Pvt Ltd rep by Mr. D. Pritham Basappa. Trainer: Arjun Mangaklorkar.
4. ABBEY FALLS PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200M): ALTAMONTE (Vivek) 1, Emeraldo (G. Praveen) 2, Dufy (Kiran Rai) 3 and Super Kind (R. Pradeep) 4. Not run: The Strikingly. 3/4, 1 and Shd. 1m 15.02s. Rs. 360 (w), 49, 27 and 12 (p), SHP: 83, THP: 61, FP: 4,799, Q: 3,048, Trinella: 8,190/4,680, Exacta: 61,516 (carried over). Favourite: Dufy.
Owner and trainer: Mr. S. Inayathulla.
5. INDRAVATI STAKES (DIV. I), (1,400M): LIVE THE DREAM (Akshay K) 1, Thutmose (Jagadeesh) 2, Amazing Stride (David Allan) 3 and Cascais (Sandesh) 4. 3, 1-3/4 and 5-1/4. 1m 25.70s. Rs. 15 (w), 10, 16 and 12 (p), SHP: 47, THP: 31, FP: 157, Q: 147, Trinella: 148/50, Exacta: 982/417. Favourite: Live The Dream.
Owners: M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. Ashok Ranpise, M/s. Rapar Galloping Stars LLP rep by Mr. Rajendran & Manjri Horse Breed Farm Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.
6. S.M. RAMAKRISHNA RAO MEMORIAL CUP (1,200M): CIRCLE OF DREAMS (Akshay K) 1, Sweet Winner (Ashhad Asbar) 2, Ziva (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Refreshment (Trevor) 4. 5-1/4, 1-1/4 and 2. 1m 12.97s. Rs. 14 (w), 10, 41 and 23 (p), SHP: 124, THP: 41, FP: 106, Q: 69, Trinella: 1,123/537, Exacta: 2,106/694. Favourite: Circle Of Dreams.
Owners: M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, Mr. S.R. Sanas & Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.
7. R.W.I.T.C. TROPHY (1,400M): KALAMITSI (Akshay K) 1, Aralina (Sandesh) 2, The Protector (Srinath) 3 and Forseti (Shreyas S) 4. 3, 3-3/4 and 1-3/4. 1m 23.96s. Rs. 39 (w), 13 and 11 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 25, FP: 56, Q: 20, Trinella: 179/91, Exacta: 327/192. Favourite: Aralina.
Owners: Mr. Solomon Benveniste, M/S. Deciding Factor LLP, Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd, Mr. Hemang D. Doctor & Mr. Lokesh Ahuja. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.
8. VIJAYANAGAR PLATE (1,200M): METZINGER (Akshay K) 1, Maple Leaf (Koshi K) 2, Southern Force (Srinath) 3 and Lauterbrunnen (Kiran Rai) 4. 3/4, 1-1/4 and Shd. 1m 13.43s. Rs. 25 (w), 13, 18 and 21 (p), SHP: 57, THP: 37, FP: 180, Q: 128, Trinella: 623/329, Exacta: 1,916/821. Favourite: Metzinger.
Owner: Mr. J.S. Lokesh. Trainer: G.Y. Rajesh Babu.
9. ABBEY FALLS PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200M): AUGUSTO (Arvind K) 1, Agera (A. Ramu) 2, Breeze Bluster (Srinath) 3 and Mega Success (Jagadeesh) 4. Shd, 3-3/4 and 1/2. 1m 13.79s. Rs. 41 (w), 20, 15 and 16 (p), SHP: 32, THP: 56, FP: 238, Q: 124, Trinella: 305/90, Exacta: 1,373/1,098. Favourite: Breeze Bluster.
Owners: Mr. G. Santhosh & Mr. Francis Arun Kumar. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.
Jackpot: Rs. 2,520 (97 tkts); Runner-up: 128 (821 tkts); Treble (i): 61 (69 tkts); (ii): 1,791 (three tkts); (iii): 634 (12 tkts).

Manika's pullout leaves National table tennis championships open

Sports Bureau
SURAT

Despite Manika Batra's last-minute pullout, there will be much at stake over the next eight days in Surat at the 86th senior National table tennis championship.

Sreeja Akula who starred in RBI's successive women's title runs in the last two editions – will be forced to participate only in women's singles after RBI failed to qualify for the team championship.

It will mean Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) – with veteran Mouma Das at the helm – can hope for a miracle. It will face stiff resistance from Railways Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) – led by Sutirtha Mukherjee.

In the men's team championship, however, PSPB is set to extend its winning run to 23 editions.

With veteran A. Sharath Kamal, Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar in its ranks PSPB is all set to continue singing "where's the competition" one more time.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Aditya, Rishika make it to the third round

BENGALURU: Telangana's Aditya Gupta defeated Karnataka's P. Sankeerth 15-10, 15-12 in the men's second round of the Yonex Sunrise all-India senior ranking badminton tournament at the Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence.
In the women's second round, third seed Rishika Nandi of Delhi took out Maharashtra's Divyasnsha Wahal 15-8, 15-8.

Delhi crushes Karnataka

Karnataka succumbed to a nine-wicket defeat at the hands of Delhi in the quarterfinals of the BCCI women's under-23 T20 Trophy in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday.
Pragya Rawat's unbeaten 62 helped Delhi overhaul Karnataka's total.

Triumphant outfit: NICE, which won the Bengaluru Women's Premier League cricket tournament, conducted by Kreedangana Sports Management in Bengaluru. Former India women's captain Mamatha Maben poses with the champion. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The scores: Karnataka 111/9 in 20 overs (G.R. Prerana 27, Barti Rawal 3/17) lost to Delhi 113/1 in 14.3 overs (Pragya Rawat 62 n.o., Deeksha 37).